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*Thirty-fourth
session
of ECLAC*

*San Salvador,
27 - 31 August*

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION FROM JANUARY 2010 TO DECEMBER 2011



UNITED NATIONS

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MISSION OF ECLAC

“To function as a centre of excellence charged with collaborating with member States in a comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and the resulting provision of operational services in the fields of specialized information, technical cooperation services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination”.

*(Resolution 553(XXVI) of the twenty-sixth session
of the Commission, San José, 1996)*



FOREWORD

Alicia Bárcena

*Executive Secretary
Economic Commission for
Latin America and the Caribbean
(ECLAC)*

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is an institution committed to the development of this region. For the Commission, development is a comprehensive process, devised from and for the region, comprising the economic, social and environmental sustainability dimensions and their interrelations. For more than 60 years, ECLAC has nurtured the tradition of contributing to the building of Latin American and Caribbean thinking on development and has promoted policy analysis and dialogue in this regard. In this endeavour, the Commission draws upon its long experience and recognized capacity to monitor key issues of the development agenda and generate new ideas and policy recommendations, as well as its capacity to mobilize support and ability to provide technical cooperation services and activities that directly benefit the countries of the region.

Bearing in mind the increasing requirements for accountability and transparency promoted by the United Nations, I am pleased to submit to the consideration of the member States of ECLAC this report of activities highlighting the Commission's key achievements and contributions during the period 2010-2011.

This biennium has been marked by the ongoing effects of the global economic and financial crisis which broke out in 2008, whose impacts have been considerably more significant than initially expected. Although the subregions of Latin America and the Caribbean have been hit in different ways by the crisis, the region as a whole tackled its consequences with a degree of resilience and a battery of policy responses that would have been almost inconceivable in previous decades. This strength has enabled the countries of the region to return to growth, poverty reduction and, more importantly, declining inequality in 2010 and 2011, thus offsetting the setbacks experienced in 2009. The current outlook still merits cautious optimism.

On a broader scale, the world that is emerging from the crisis is fundamentally changed, in particular with regard to the new role of the emerging South, especially China, and the limitations of the existing global governance system in addressing the challenges of a globalized world —challenges such as the volatility of financial markets and commodity prices. Such trends offer new opportunities for Latin America and the Caribbean, including the chance to develop stronger ties with the Asia-Pacific region and carry forward a renewed regional integration agenda. Lastly, the 2010-2011 biennium has been marked by significant social unrest and mobilization, at both the global and regional levels, which has questioned existing development patterns and called for a greater voice for the people in the related policy debates.

In this context, the Commission's substantive capacity and flexible working methods have enabled it to adapt quickly to rapidly shifting situations. While the crisis was still unfolding, ECLAC called for countercyclical measures and the development of intraregional trade and emphasized the importance of safeguarding sources of employment. Above all, the Commission called for a redefinition of the role of the State and of the traditional equation between State, market and society, placing equality at the centre of the development agenda. Moreover, ECLAC continued to promote greater participation by the countries of the region in global forums such as the Group of Twenty (G-20) and to raise the region's voice in

the debate on reform of the international financial architecture and of global governance. The Commission also provided ongoing support and technical advice to the existing and emerging integration initiatives at the regional and subregional levels.

These ideas and policy proposals have been presented in studies and publications, most notably the document *Time for Equality: Closing gaps, Opening trails*, which was presented to member States at the thirty-third session of ECLAC in Brasilia in May 2010 and widely disseminated in the region and beyond. The Commission's most recent analyses and public policy proposals, which have helped to stimulate discussion on key regional development issues, include work on financing for development; the need for innovative sources of financing and the situation of middle-income countries; the knowledge economy and access to broadband Internet connections; social protection and cohesion; climate change; and regional infrastructure. ECLAC has also maintained its essential role as a universal and impartial forum for the fostering of public policy debate, the exchange of good practices and the promotion of regional positions in global forums as well as in regional and interregional summits of Heads of State and Government and high-level meetings.

ECLAC officers and technical staff have worked hard to support the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and to catalyse debate around them through the Commission's flagship publications —*Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, *Social Panorama of Latin America*, *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*, *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy*, *Statistical Yearbook of Latin America and the Caribbean*, and *Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean*— and through the organization of seminars, technical workshops, training courses, and expert meetings and the delivery of technical cooperation services to member countries in a wide array of areas, encompassing the broad spectrum of economic, social and environmental sustainability issues on the region's development agenda.

I would also like to highlight the Commission's leadership in coordinating the work of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system in the region, for instance through the preparation of the inter-agency report *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges*, prepared in 2010, and the organization of the meeting of the Regional Coordination Mechanism and the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which will take place in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012.

ECLAC held its thirty-third biennial session in Brazil in 2010. The session is the Commission's main intergovernmental forum; it provides a forum for discussion of key proposals for the region's development agenda and a mechanism for accountability with member States. ECLAC has also served as technical secretariat for various intergovernmental initiatives, such as the Committee of the Whole, the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2015), the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN), the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) and the Central American Economic Cooperation Committee.

The positive results achieved during 2010-2011 to the benefit of a wide array of stakeholders in the countries of the region were made possible by the dedication and flexibility of the ECLAC staff, to whom I am grateful. The Commission's work was shaped by an unflagging institutional effort to ensure continuous improvement and enhance the efficiency of work, the visibility of products and services and the overall commitment to the values of the international civil service. Finally, I would like to thank our member States for the ongoing trust and support they have placed in our institution in support of the regional development agenda.

PART I

INTRODUCTION



ABOUT ECLAC

The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) —the Spanish acronym is CEPAL— was established by Economic and Social Council resolution 106(VI) of 25 February 1948 and began to function that same year. The scope of the Commission's work was later broadened to include the countries of the Caribbean, and by resolution 1984/67 of 27 July 1984, the Economic Council decided to change its name to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); the Spanish acronym, CEPAL, remains unchanged.

ECLAC, which is headquartered in Santiago, is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. It was founded with the purpose of contributing to the economic development of Latin America and the Caribbean, coordinating actions directed towards this end, and reinforcing economic ties among countries and with other nations of the world. The promotion of the region's social development was later included among its primary objectives. In June 1951, the Commission established the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico City, which serves the needs of the Central American subregion, comprising Central America, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and in December 1966, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean was founded in Port of Spain, which serves the Caribbean subregion. In addition, ECLAC maintains country offices in Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Montevideo and Bogota, as well as a liaison office in Washington, D.C. The 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, together with several Asian, European and North American nations that have historical, economic and cultural ties with the region, comprise the 44 member States of ECLAC. Eight non-independent territories in the Caribbean are associate members of the Commission.

Since its inception, ECLAC has undertaken careful analyses of the situation in the region through two basic functions: economic and social research and technical cooperation and assistance to Governments. The Commission's ongoing concern for equitable growth, technical progress, social justice and democracy reflects its integral approach to understanding development and the legacy of a rich intellectual tradition. Motivated by a constant interest in emerging global issues and by the need to adapt to today's ever-changing world, ECLAC is committed to addressing problems such as sustainable development, climate change and energy security, as well as social issues relating to gender, youth and ethnic minorities.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Under the leadership of Raúl Prebisch, ECLAC devoted itself to performing a fresh intellectual analysis of the region's development challenges, based on its needs, potential and distinctive characteristics. The organization formulated a Latin American and Caribbean perspective, which entered the collective imagination, inspired public policies and international cooperation initiatives, and strengthened the region's voice internationally.

The Commission's early influence may be seen in the adoption of an import substitution strategy in several countries of the region, with explicit reference to the ECLAC conceptual and analytical framework; the creation of regional integration areas such as the Central American Common Market; and the advice it provided on large-scale projects such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Latin American Common Market, the latter leading to the creation of the Latin American Integration

Map 1

ECLAC headquarters and offices



The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Association (LAIA). What is perhaps less well known, but no less important, is the role played by ECLAC in building early national accounts capacities; in development planning, performed by the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES); and in improving population censuses and their analysis, through the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC.

Today, ECLAC continues to assist the countries of the region in evaluating specific experiences that represent valuable sources of input for updating their national development agendas. As has traditionally been the case, ECLAC continues to develop a firmly Latin American and Caribbean line of thought that highlights the region's unique features. In its publication *Time for equality:*

Closing Gaps, Opening Trails, ECLAC formulates a new approach to the region's development challenges, in the best ECLAC tradition. The Commission's most important recent achievements include helping countries understand and cope with the 2008-2009 international financial crisis and the economic and social impacts of climate change, and designing and implementing a plan of action to capitalize on the opportunities presented by new information and communication technologies (ICTs). The countries of the region continue to seek analytical and proactive support from ECLAC in connection with new international cooperation initiatives. Collaborating with the Rio Group and the nascent Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and supporting summits between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean are two examples of its role in this regard.



HIGHLIGHTS OF BIENNIAL RESULTS

THE REGIONAL CONTEXT

During the 2010-2011 biennium, the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean continued to recover from the global financial and economic crisis whose fallout spread across the region in the second half of 2008 and in 2009. After contracting in 2009, economies expanded in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2010, but slower growth was projected for 2011, although with distinct differences from one country to another. The upturn that began late in 2009 and gained unexpected momentum in 2010 developed into a full-blown recovery that was without precedent in the world economy, sustained by the macroeconomic policies implemented by the countries in the region. The recovery carried over into 2011, although economic growth subsided in response to both external and domestic factors. The slowdown in regional growth steepened in the second half of the year, reflecting slackening export growth, falling prices for the region's main export commodities—which nonetheless remained at historically high levels—and cooling domestic demand.

Leading composite indicators show that slower growth in the industrialized countries is starting to act as a drag on the main emerging economies, including China and, particularly, Brazil and India. As growth decelerates in the emerging economies and the industrialized economies show increasing weakness, international commodity prices fall, adversely affecting the trade and current account balances of net commodity exporters.

Poverty and inequality have decreased in the region in the past few years, chiefly thanks to active social public policies aimed at protecting employment, raising labour income and increasing public transfers to the most vulnerable sectors. But productivity gaps remain rigid, and there is still

little social mobility for specific groups in low-productivity sectors (especially women in lower-income socioeconomic groups) whose income has not increased. Fertility is declining substantially and can mean greater well-being in families with fewer dependents. Governments have increased social spending and social protection in recent years to mitigate the impacts of the 2008-2009 crisis on the most vulnerable sectors.

Lastly, global challenges such as climate change and the need to develop low-carbon economies urgently require the implementation of new strategies to foster adaptation, mitigation and risk reduction as well as to enhance energy efficiency and jump-start the broad use of renewable energies. In the post-crisis context, the roles of institutions and market regulations need to be revised and the role of the State must be redefined to generate the conditions for sustainable and inclusive development that would bring the region onto a new path of sustainable development with equality.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION IN 2010–2011

Bearing in mind the complexity of the reform processes in the region and the rapidly evolving demands from member States, ECLAC continued to provide timely and relevant analysis and policy recommendations regarding development issues. The Commission worked closely with the Governments in the region and other counterpart institutions to safeguard linkages between individual national experiences and regional perspectives, facilitate data comparability and exchange of good practices, and provide effective technical cooperation services in transboundary issues within its purview.

To that end, the Commission emphasized analytical, normative, advocacy and capacity-building work to strengthen the design of sustainable development strategies and public policies and to facilitate the continuous monitoring of their practical implementation. Operational services in the areas of specialized information, technical cooperation and training fostered cooperation, networking and sharing of good practices at the subregional, regional and international levels, including South-South cooperation.

ECLAC continued to work on integrated and comprehensive follow-up to the world summits from a regional perspective, in particular the region's final progress towards the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 as well as the renovated development agenda for the region stemming from the reflection on beyond-2015 topics and the Rio+20 Summit. For that purpose, ECLAC reinforced its leading role as the convener of the Regional Coordination Mechanism of all the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system in the region, which reports to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly.

The economic dimension

For Latin America and the Caribbean, 2010 and 2011 were characterized by recovery from the global economic and financial crisis that struck during the preceding years. This posed new challenges for analytical work and for the technical support provided by ECLAC to its member countries. In this context, one of the Commission's flagship publications, *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*, analysed the challenges arising from the increased capital inflows to the region and the commodity price boom, as well as the policy dilemmas faced by the Governments, the policy alternatives at hand and the distributive impact of public policies. Another flagship publication, *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, examined the economic performance and perspectives of the region at the end of every year.

High levels of volatility represent a serious problem for public policy, in particular fiscal policy. A number of the region's countries face challenges related to fiscal decentralization, which were addressed in the study "Macroeconomic challenges of fiscal decentralization in Latin America in the aftermath of the global financial crisis".

This paper discussed how fiscal decentralization is affecting macroeconomic management in the largest Latin American countries; and how particular reforms to their existing intergovernmental fiscal systems could help strengthen fiscal sustainability, minimize the risk of procyclicality at all levels of government and create fiscal space for active countercyclical responses to economic shocks. To improve the diffusion of information, ECLAC created the Fiscal Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, which gives quick access to all the relevant information.

During the biennium ECLAC was very active in the area of capacity-building. Many activities were organized in a wide spectrum of international economy and global trade fields. In this context, the conference Latin American and Caribbean Labor Markets and the Global Economy, held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, formed part of the International Collaborative Initiative on Trade and Employment (ICITE), which is a joint undertaking of 10 international organizations. The fundamental objective of this conference was to improve understanding of the mechanisms by which trade interacts with employment, with a view to promoting dialogue and developing policy-relevant conclusions. In the same line of work, ECLAC also provided technical assistance in the framework of the project Changing nature of Asia-Latin American Economic Relations, organizing two meetings which were sponsored by the Government of the Republic of Korea. The project includes the study of four components: (i) insertion into and creation of value chains; (ii) Latin American direct investment in Asia; (iii) search activities and location of natural resources; and (iv) integration in the service sector. Lastly, the workshop Trade and climate change in Latin America, held in Washington, D.C., brought together Latin American ministers and deputy ministers of trade, renowned experts and representatives of the private sector in the region. The dialogue focused on how the region's Governments and productive sectors, supported by institutions such as ECLAC and IDB, can act together to turn the challenges posed by climate change into opportunities for regional exports. Staff received a total of 68 invitations to seminars, conferences, workshops and meetings, mainly on topics related to the Latin American and Caribbean region's trade relations with China, the European Union, India and the United States. These all represent evidence of the Commission's standing in the region with respect to international positioning strategies, with an emphasis on competitiveness, the negotiation and

administration of trade agreements, regional integration and cooperation, trade and environmental sustainability, and trade assistance for poverty reduction.

ECLAC continued providing research, technical assistance and an arena for regional dialogue on production activities (in relation to production processes involving transnational corporations, small and medium-sized enterprises and the agricultural sector, for example) in Latin America and the Caribbean. The President and the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica launched the State Policy for the Agricultural Sector and Rural Development in Costa Rica 2010-2021, which was prepared with the support of ECLAC through technical cooperation missions and adopted by the Government of Costa Rica. Similarly, at the request of the Ministry of Industry of Argentina, during 2011 ECLAC analysed 10 different value chains in the country: automotive, footwear, medicines, capital goods, agricultural machinery, construction materials, poultry and pork processing, dairy products, textiles and apparel, and software. On the basis of these diagnostics, the Ministry organized a series of round tables with the main public and private stakeholders in each value chain, in which ECLAC participated as technical secretariat. The diagnosis, together with the reports from the round tables, formed the basis for the Ministry of Industry's strategic plan, which the President of the Republic launched formally on 4 October 2011.

ECLAC has also studied processes of structural change, innovation and technological development, with a special focus on the key area of information and communication technologies (ICTs).

The Regional Dialogue on Broadband is an ECLAC initiative designed to allow countries to exchange knowledge and best practices for developing broadband policies. ECLAC proposed the establishment of a Regional Broadband Observatory to develop the Regional Dialogue on Broadband, and this was launched in May 2011. Regarding ICTs, the 17 Latin American and Caribbean countries which established the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the preparatory meeting for the Third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, in Montevideo, to discuss a long-term strategy for the region, on the basis that ICTs are instruments of economic development and social inclusion. The agreements reached during the preparatory meeting, enshrined in the Plan of

Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015), were endorsed by delegates at the Third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society of Latin America and the Caribbean in the Lima Declaration.

The social dimension

The Latin American and Caribbean region experienced solid economic growth and job creation, which contributed to poverty reduction. However, large social vulnerability and socioeconomic gaps remain. The Commission's work during the biennium focused on strengthening social protection and care provision with a redistributive slant, providing valuable cooperation services to the Governments of the region. Worth highlighting, due to its impact, is the assistance provided to the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) of Uruguay to develop a national care system that takes into account issues related to the unpaid care economy and caters for different dependent groups such as children and older persons. In other examples of work in this area, ECLAC provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Welfare and Family of Costa Rica on social protection, specifically on the elderly, and to the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion of Ecuador regarding ECLAC recommendations on inclusive social protection under a rights-based approach with special attention to child care and cash transfer programmes.

The Commission's flagship publication *Social Panorama of Latin America* contributed much to disseminating these outcomes during the biennium. Regarding dissemination of innovative social development projects, the main results relate to civil society initiatives which have been replicated in eight countries of the region. Support has also been provided for Government initiatives to study and evaluate the impact of ICTs in health and education services. One important outcome was the creation of a network of 31 health experts in 12 countries of the region.

ECLAC engaged in intensive technical support activities for enhancing national census capacities, during a biennium in which most of the region's countries were preparing and conducting population and housing censuses. In the biennium 2010-2011, national statistical offices from Latin America and the Caribbean participated in formal and informal meetings organized by the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population

Division of ECLAC and made presentations on their respective censuses. This helped to build up countries' capacity to monitor population trends and integrate demographic and development issues into social programming. This area of work included technical support provided to nine countries; a wide range of workshops and regional courses on censuses, in which representatives of 29 government agencies participated; a course on ageing and social protection strategies in which 27 institutions participated and produced documents that made use of census data; and a number of courses on the system for the retrieval of census data for small areas by microcomputer (REDATAM), in which 43 government agencies produced reports, applications and indicators on a broad range of thematic areas using census data.

This biennium has seen a further strengthening of the Commission's work to promote gender mainstreaming, both in the region and within the organization. The new know-how generated has served to support the development and monitoring of public policies for gender equality in the region and capacity-building in national statistical institutes and national mechanisms for the advancement of women. At the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Brasilia—attended by 31 member States of ECLAC, two Member States of the United Nations which are not members of the Commission, 16 funds and agencies of the United Nations system, and 10 intergovernmental and governmental organizations—ECLAC member countries adopted the Brasilia Consensus, which contains new commitments to attain greater economic autonomy and equality in the workplace, enhance the citizenship of women, broaden women's participation in decision-making, address all forms of violence against women, and carry out training and activities for exchanging and disseminating experiences. Since its adoption, the Brasilia Consensus has become the main agenda of all the forums in which the ministers for women's affairs of Latin America have participated.

In 2011, ECLAC launched a series of e-Learning courses in response to the growing demand for technical assistance and a specific request made by Governments in the Brasilia Consensus. Three courses took place on gender indicators and statistics, time-use surveys, and the measurement of violence. This was an interregional project which received an unprecedented response from public authorities throughout the region. The courses

Support for high-level forums

- Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development
- Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Finance of the Americas and the Caribbean
- XX Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government
- APEC Ministerial and Economic Leaders' Meetings
- VI Ministerial Meeting of the Latin American Pacific Basin Initiative
- Meeting of the United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism

Support for intergovernmental forums

- Third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Regional evaluation meeting on the Regional Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, eLAC 2010
- Tenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC
- Eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Twenty-third session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts
- Twenty-third session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
- Central American Economic Cooperation Committee
- Twenty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES
- Regional Interagency Coordination Meeting
- Third meeting of the Regional Dialogue on the Costs of International Connections and their Impact on Broadband Prices

on gender indicators and time-use surveys served more than 170 participants from 19 countries in the region, who evaluated the course positively.

The sustainability dimension

In the post-crisis context following the global recession of 2008-2009, ECLAC concentrated its efforts on continuing to strengthen the capacities of the countries of the region, focusing on evaluating the advances, gaps and strategic opportunities for sustainable development and the integration of sustainability criteria in public policies and

institutions. The many seminars and workshops organized by the Commission on sustainable development topics included the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, in which representatives of 34 member States and nearly 100 civil society members participated. ECLAC convened this meeting in fulfilment of the mandate handed down to the regional commissions of the United Nations to lend assistance to the countries of their respective regions for the achievement of sustainable development, including through the organization of regional implementation meetings. The meeting culminated in a set of conclusions for the region, which served as input in the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012. ECLAC also organized the regional implementation meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), and participates in the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean (as part of the Inter-agency Technical Committee), the Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) and the preparatory and intersessional meetings for Rio+20.

During the period 2010-2011 the Commission consolidated its activities on the economics of climate change. Its recent findings were presented at the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 17) in Durban. The document *Economics of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean. Summary 2010* was presented at various side events at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 16). This study details the main economic effects of global warming in different potential scenarios and suggests possible courses of action to avoid greater damage to the region. The Commission also organized, in conjunction with the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), the third session of the XXII Regional seminar on fiscal policy, held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago in January 2010, and the International seminar on planning and sustainable management of natural and sustainable resources, held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in August 2010. ECLAC prepared the documents *Climate change: a regional perspective*, presented at the Unity Summit of

Latin America and the Caribbean, in Mexico, in February 2010; *The economics of climate change in Uruguay*; and *Vital Climate Change Graphics for Latin America and the Caribbean*". Together with *Economics of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean. Summary 2010*, these are the Commission's four key publications on climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Structural reforms undertaken by the Latin America and Caribbean countries in the past two decades have led to significant changes in the institutional sectors concerned with the management and use of natural resources and the provision of infrastructure services in drinking water and sanitation, energy and transportation. ECLAC has continued to play an essential role in strengthening the capacity of the region's countries and promoting discussions on best practices for the formulation of sustainable policies. ECLAC has consolidated a process of policy coordination and harmonization with 24 institutions regarding the sustainable management of natural resources and infrastructure at the subregional and regional levels. The Commission organized 46 expert group meetings, seminars, courses and workshops, and published 38 documents setting forth the results of its research and analysis, as well as 45 recurrent publications. Throughout the biennium, ECLAC has been particularly active in the areas of infrastructure, transport and logistics policies with a regional perspective. In this regard, the most significant political impact was represented by the signature of the Tuxtla Declaration by the Presidents of the 10 countries of the Mesoamerica Project: Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala Mexico, Nicaragua, Honduras and Panama. The Declaration was signed in 2010 and recognizes the support provided by ECLAC in the area of transport infrastructure. Finally, the Commission prepared the document *Infrastructure for Regional Integration*, which offers a diagnosis of infrastructure in the relevant countries and guidance on formulating public policies for this sector.

The public policy dimension

In response to requests made by countries in the region, during the biennium 2010-2011 ECLAC conducted activities in the areas of economic and social planning, at the national, local and sector levels, in support of processes of State and government reform and modernization of public policymaking. It also provided policy advice and proposals in development strategies and public-sector economics,

to foster improved performance of public policies, programmes and projects, and to strengthen and capitalize knowledge networks in these substantive areas. ECLAC has also promoted and supported the setting-up of new instruments for budgetary policymaking and evaluation, and disseminated sound results-based management practices in order to incorporate them into the public-policy cycle. As part of these activities, the Commission has organized and implemented 21 international courses, 36 national courses and 44 workshops, totalling more than 5,000 hours of training and 4,587 professionals trained. Thirteen e-Learning courses were also organized and served 1,197 participants. The Commission publications on planning and budgeting, which contain relevant policy analysis and recommendations for action, have been downloaded more than 1.3 million times. Two major publications were released during the biennium: *Panorama del desarrollo territorial en América Latina y el Caribe* (2010) and *Espacios iberoamericanos: hacia una nueva arquitectura del Estado para el desarrollo* (2011), which was presented at the XXI Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, held in Asuncion in October 2011.

ECLAC has played a major role in the region in promoting the new recommendations on national accounts and in supporting countries in improving the quality and coverage of national accounts data. In this regard, 24 countries of the region made satisfactory progress in implementing the System of National Accounts 1993, including satellite accounts. A major effort was deployed to assist in the planning and implementation of the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean, since ECLAC is the regional coordination agency for the Programme. In the 2011 round, the Central American and Caribbean countries were fully incorporated into the project, which constitutes a major advance. Regarding statistics pertaining to the Millennium Development Goals, work was aimed at reducing information gaps and discrepancies between national and international sources, and improving the coordination among national agencies, in order to have more countries making satisfactory progress towards the production of indicators to monitor the Goals. According to the United Nations Millennium Indicators database, 28 countries were making satisfactory progress in the biennium. ECLAC disseminates statistical information through its flagship publication, *Statistical Yearbook for the Latin America and the Caribbean* and through its information

portal, CEPALSTAT, which contains a series of regularly updated thematic databases covering a variety of issues (social, national accounts, the environment, gender affairs, productive activities, and external trade, among others).

The subregional dimension

The international financial crisis that broke out in 2008 and rapidly became the worst global recession since the Great Depression had a damaging impact on Mexico and the Central American countries and put additional pressure on their development agenda. The economy of this subregion is growing, although at a slower pace than before the crisis. During the biennium, the efforts of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico were aimed at assisting the Governments and stakeholders of the countries served by the office (Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama), in order to strengthen their capacities to address economic and social issues. A prominent output in this area was the strategic vision document on an Investment and Financing Plan for Central America and the Dominican Republic (PIFCARD), prepared by ECLAC at the request of the ministries of finance and economic affairs of the subregion, as well as Central American intergovernmental committees and councils. During the twenty-fourth meeting of the Council of Treasury and Finance Ministers (COSEFIN), held in Santo Domingo in February 2011, the ministers of finance agreed to promote PIFCARD and the vice-ministers working group, with the support of the inter-agency group coordinated by ECLAC in collaboration with IDB, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCIE). Also in this line of work, the Commission provided technical support to the Governments in the formulation of regional projects, in coordination with the inter-agency group, to further advance the trade facilitation projects portfolio, with a special emphasis on transport and energy.

In the field of international trade, industry and competition, the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico acted as focal point for the Interinstitutional Technical Group of the Mesoamerica Project. In this role, ECLAC has provided technical advice regarding the initiatives of the Mesoamerica Project and helped to assess their merits for inclusion in the project portfolio, in response to requests from the countries of the subregion. Participation in this group also facilitated the establishment of a matrix of technical

cooperation between ECLAC and the Mesoamerica Project in the area of transport. The Commission's participation in meetings of the Executive Committee, ad-hoc groups and the Interinstitutional Technical Group of the Mesoamerica Project also fostered technical cooperation by ECLAC in the Mesoamerican Strategy for Environmental Sustainability (EMSA) and in the Mesoamerican Information Highway (AMI). The Commission's involvement with the Interinstitutional Technical Group and its technical cooperation in the area of transport were recognized in the Cartagena Declaration adopted at the XII Summit of Heads of States and Government of countries members of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination.

During the biennium 2010-2011, the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean contributed to strengthening the capacity of policymakers and other ECLAC stakeholders to formulate and implement economic and social development measures, as well as to improving opportunities for integration in the Caribbean and between the Caribbean and the wider region. At its twenty-third session, the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) reviewed the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development

of Small Island Developing States and considered the progress made in the Caribbean towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in preparation for the high-level meetings which took place in the framework of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. One important outcome of these high-level meetings was their focus on the significance of climate change for the small islands of the Caribbean and the need for action to address the associated risks. As a result of this initiative, at least seven countries have reported significant progress in integrating measures in follow-up to the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy into their national plans.

In addition, ECLAC conducted advisory missions to assess the socioeconomic impact of natural disasters, support the formulation of recovery plans and design risk management strategies, which enabled Government authorities from five countries and three intergovernmental institutions to increase their technical and policymaking capacities to reach sustainable development goals.

Pursuant to CDCC resolution 73(XXIII), "Support for the role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the Caribbean and enhancing the functions of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation

Disseminating knowledge and policy recommendations

ECLAC disseminates its research findings and institutional positions through an extensive collection of publications, which includes flagship publications, series, and project documents of specific divisions, as well as institutional books and other interdivisional publications.

The Commission's main flagship publications include *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy*, *Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean*, *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*, *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, *Social Panorama of Latin America*, and *Statistical Yearbook of Latin America and the Caribbean*.



Committee”, the first Caribbean Development Round Table, a forum for development experts to examine new approaches and challenges to the sustainable development of small developing countries, was convened in September 2011. The meeting examined how the Caribbean could develop new policies and strategies to meet old and new challenges related to growth, social equity, vulnerability and environmental sustainability in small economies. A total of 19 recommendations emerged from the meeting.

Lastly, through the Caribbean Risk Management Initiative-United Nations Development Programme project “Promoting cooperation among small island developing States”, ECLAC has been able to disseminate the Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) Methodology to disaster managers from across the Pacific Region. Seventy-seven technical staff from at least five countries participated in

four training workshops organized by ECLAC, which helped them to expand their methodological knowledge and technical skills for measuring the damage and losses related to natural disasters on a sector basis, or for designing and implementing preventive or emergency measures at the national and subnational levels.

Implementation of the programme of work

The Commission’s impact on the policy agenda and the debate on economic, social and environmental issues in the region was achieved thanks to a high rate of implementation of its programme of work. A total of 96% of mandated outputs have been implemented, and 104 outputs have been produced in addition to those planned in the biennium in response to member States’ requests. Execution of the spending allotment for the biennium has reached 100%.

Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Number of mandated outputs	Implementation rate of mandated outputs	Number of total outputs	Implementation rate for total outputs
Executive direction and management	52	100%	59	100%
1. Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	56	96%	74	97%
2. Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	39	100%	41	100%
3. Macroeconomic policies and growth	29	93%	34	94%
4. Social development and equity	33	100%	33	100%
5. Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	51	96%	57	96%
6. Population and development	65	97%	71	97%
7. Planning of public administration	24	100%	45	100%
8. Sustainable development and human settlements	41	95%	47	96%
9. Natural resources and infrastructure	32	100%	38	100%
10. Statistics and economic projections	61	89%	70	90%
11. Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	76	97%	91	98%
12. Subregional activities in the Caribbean	83	87%	86	87%
Subtotal	642	95%	746	96%

PART II

MAIN RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES BY AREA

Executive direction and management

Linkages with the global economy,
regional integration and cooperation

1

Production and innovation

2

Macroeconomic policies and growth

3

Social development and equality

4

Mainstreaming the gender
perspective in regional development

5

Population and development

6

Planning of public administration

7

Environment and
human settlements

8

Natural resources and infrastructure

9

Statistics and economic projections

10

Subregional activities
in Mexico and Central America

11

Subregional activities
in the Caribbean

12

National offices

Technical cooperation

Improving results-based
management



EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

CONTRIBUTION TO KEY ISSUES ON THE PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

ECLAC has continued to act as a catalyst and leader in economic, social and environmental issues of the development agenda, responding to the most urgent needs of the countries in the region, including the volatility of commodity and food prices, the ongoing impact of the economic, financial and sovereign debt crises and in the more general context of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. The Commission also continued to serve as a regional forum and facilitator in building regional consensus on the region's greatest challenges through its comprehensive analysis of development processes, support for public-policy formulation and evaluation, and implementation of operational activities, including the provision of technical cooperation and the dissemination of specialized information and training.

At the thirty-third session of the Commission, which was held in Brasilia from 31 May to 1 June 2010 and attended by nearly 300 participants, the ECLAC presented the document entitled *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails*, in which it introduced a new development agenda affording a prominent role to the right to equality based on seven pillars: (i) Macroeconomic policy for inclusive development to mitigate volatility, stimulate productivity and favour inclusion; (ii) Overcoming structural heterogeneity and productivity gaps through more innovation, dissemination of knowledge and support for SMEs; (iii) Improving international integration, diversifying exports and raising competitiveness; (iv) Overcoming the territorial disparities affecting productive, institutional and social development capacities and hindering national production linkages;

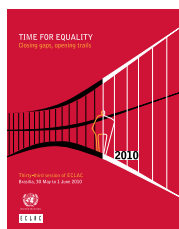
(v) Creating more and better employment to improve equality of opportunities and social inclusion; (vi) Closing social gaps through a steady increase in social spending and stronger social institutions; and (vii) Building consensus around social and fiscal covenants and a new role for the State. The member States warmly welcomed the document and handed the Commission a mandate to follow the orientations contained therein in conducting its work. One month later, at the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Brasilia on 13-16 July, ECLAC presented the document *What kind of State? What kind of equality?*, which provided a basis for discussion of the problematic of gender equality and the challenges that Governments of the region still face in this regard.

In May 2010, ECLAC, the Organization of American States (OAS) and IDB relaunched the Tripartite Cooperation Committee comprising the three institutions, with the aim of strengthening the impact and heightening the effectiveness of their work in light of the challenges facing the population of the region. The Presidency of the Tripartite Committee rotates every six months. At the time of the relaunching the Chair was held by OAS, before being transferred to IDB on 1 July 2010, and to ECLAC on 1 January 2011.

"We share the view of development that reduces poverty and inequality by placing equality at the centre of all efforts to attain greater welfare for the Latin American people, considering it not only in terms of access to opportunities, but also as the entitlement of rights".

Joint statement of the Heads of State of MERCOSUR member countries, 39th regular meeting of the Common Market Council, San Juan, Argentina, August 2010.

Time for equality



Time for Equality: Closing gaps, Opening Trails, was the main working document presented at the thirty-third session of ECLAC, held in Brasilia from 30 May to 1 June 2010.

The document emphasizes that social equality and economic growth are not at odds with each other: the great challenge is to find synergies between the two. The proposal made here points in this direction: growth needs equality and equality needs growth. In a long-term strategic approach, equality, economic growth and environmental sustainability must go hand in hand.

The document proposes growth with less structural heterogeneity and more productive development, and the pursuit of equality through the enhancement of human capacities and the mobilization of State energies.

ECLAC considers that the new development paradigm must be made to do everything possible to build a model of globalization that breeds greater collective awareness of global public goods; awakens democracy across the planet by affording a voice to the most diverse range of actors in the open concert of global governance; and provides excluded sectors with the tools needed to close gaps in capacity, citizens' rights and access to well-being.

The Commission continued to provide technical support to the Latin America and Caribbean - European Union Summits and the Ibero-American Summits. It also provided support, in the form of analytical documents and other technical material, to the nascent secretariat of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and to the new Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). At the Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean, attended by 25 Heads of State and Government in Cancun (Mexico) on 22 February 2010, the Commission introduced two documents: (i) Opportunities for convergence and regional cooperation, which examined the main characteristics of the post-crisis scenario and identified the resulting demand for greater regional cooperation, and presented several proposals to increase that cooperation; (ii) Climate change: a regional perspective, jointly prepared by ECLAC and IDB as a contribution to the ongoing discussion on the

economic impacts of climate change in light of the results of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 15), held in Copenhagen in December 2009.

The XX Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Education and the Ibero-American Congress of Education: Goals 2021 took place on 14 September 2010 in Buenos Aires. On that occasion, ECLAC, together with the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI), presented a revised account of the gaps and costs in the attainment of the education goals for 2021 in the region.

The Commission also provided support to the countries of the region belonging to the Group of Twenty (G20). On 26 October 2010, the Commission organized the seminar Recent development strategies in government plans, together with the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA) of Brazil and with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea. During the seminar, experts from several continents analysed the current socioeconomic scenario in the region and the world and agreed upon proposals for the G20 meeting held in Seoul on 11-12 November 2010.

At the European Union - Latin America and the Caribbean Forum on Social Cohesion, which took place in Lima on 8-10 February 2010 and was devoted to the theme "Promoting decent work for youths. New capabilities for new jobs", ECLAC provided the participants with an overview of the challenges for youth employment and social cohesion in the regional economic and social context. The participants included government ministers and other high-ranking officials from a dozen countries of the region and Europe, as well as representatives of international organizations. The conclusions and recommendations of the Forum were delivered to the Heads of State and Government gathered at the VI European Union - Latin America and the Caribbean Summit in Madrid on 18 May 2010, whose theme was "Innovation and technology for sustainable development and social inclusion." ECLAC also provided support for the V LAC-EU Ministerial Forum on the Information Society, which took place in Segovia, Spain, on 14-15 March 2010. In the final statement of that Forum, participants acknowledged the different degrees of development and challenges of the information society in the two regions and called for safeguarding the progress achieved since

the first World Summits on the Information Society (WSIS), highlighting the contribution of the the European Union's Alliance for the Information Society (@lis programme). This programme, of which ECLAC is an implementing partner, seeks to extend the benefits of the information society to every citizen in the Latin American and Caribbean region and to reduce the digital gap. Among the participants were representatives of the European Commission and of Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Germany, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Spain, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Portugal, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Uruguay, as well as a number of invited organizations, including the Ibero-American Association of Research Centers and Telecommunication Enterprises (AHCJET), the Telecommunications Market Commission, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Telecom Italia and Telefónica, among others.

Later in the year, ECLAC hosted the Regional Dialogue on the Costs of International Connections and their Impact on Broadband Prices. The delegates requested the Commission to act as technical secretariat of the forum, coordinating and facilitating dialogue and disseminating the results of this first meeting to other countries in the region interested in participating. ECLAC was mandated to conduct a regional diagnosis on broadband demand, assess the limitations of content hosting and collect data on interconnection points and best practices in broadband policies. In this context, the Commission further raised awareness of these issues among the member States at the Third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima on 21-23 November 2010. On that occasion, the Commission put forward a number of bold proposals for discussion: (i) ICT for growth and equality: renewing strategies for the information society. This proposal examined the potential of ICTs to advance towards a development model with more innovation and equality in the region and offered a detailed analysis of the role of public policies for the information society; (ii) Speeding up the digital revolution: broadband for Latin America and the Caribbean. Here the urgent need was emphasized to hasten the rate of development of infrastructure, applications and contents to allow broadband to be incorporated effectively in productive and social activities; (iii) Monitoring of the eLAC2010 Plan: advances and challenges of the information society in Latin America

and the Caribbean. This proposal provided an account of the implementation of the regional plan of action from 2008-2010 and progress towards its goals in education, infrastructure and access, health, public management, productive sector, policy instruments and strategies. The countries participating in the Third Ministerial Conference mandated ECLAC to create a Broadband Observatory for the region. The Commission also participated in the Latin American and the Caribbean-European Union Forum (LAC-EU) on Fiscal Policy and an Environmentally Sustainable Economy in the Context of Climate Change in November 2010 in Berlin.

ECLAC was also engaged in raising awareness on emerging issues concerning innovation, competitiveness and the digital divide at the sixth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Latin American Pacific Basin Initiative, which took place on 15 October 2010 in Cuzco, Peru. On this occasion, the Commission submitted two documents for discussion: (i) *Ciencia y tecnología en el Arco del Pacífico Latinoamericano: espacios para innovar y competir*, in which ECLAC argues that innovation is a central element in development strategies because it gives way to sustainable, long-term economic growth with equality and competitiveness; and (ii) *El Arco del Pacífico Latinoamericano: Construyendo caminos de complementación e integración con Asia*, which asserts that closer ties with the Asia-Pacific region may require more institution-building in the Pacific Basin as a way to boost its identity vis-à-vis Asian nations.

Together with the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation of Chile (MIDEPLAN), the Foundation for Overcoming Poverty and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), the Commission also organized an international seminar on multidimensional poverty measurement in Latin America, aimed at raising awareness of the importance of properly measuring and characterizing poverty. This took place on 14-15 May 2010.

ECLAC drew attention to the ways in which deep, persisting, inequalities in access to health care disadvantage large percentages of the population, in the document *Population and health in Latin America and the Caribbean: outstanding matters and new challenges*, which was submitted for discussion to the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, an intergovernmental body of ECLAC, at its meeting in Santiago on 12-14 May 2010. At the meeting, representatives of the Latin American and Caribbean

countries agreed on the identification and proposal of specific actions to advance on priority issues on population and development over the near future.

In addition, the Commission fostered the policy debate and analysis of the role of the G20 and the United Nations in global governance and in addressing the reform of the international financial system. In that context, the particular situation of middle-income countries and their access to financing for development received special attention. ECLAC and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile organized a regional seminar on the subject of the United Nations in global governance, which took place on 8-9 August 2011 at the ECLAC headquarters in Santiago. During the first day, two panel discussions were held on “Multilateralism, the United Nations and global governance” and on “The role of the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the Group of 20 in global economic governance”. The second day’s work addressed the theme “The regional contribution to global governance”. The seminar profited from the valuable insights of senior officials from the Governments of several countries of the region and representatives of United Nations bodies.¹ The seminar’s presentations and discussions were compiled in a book entitled *The United Nations in global governance – A Latin American and Caribbean perspective*, which was presented during the thirtieth ministerial meeting of the Rio Group on 23 September 2011 in New York. During the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development, which was hosted by ECLAC on 10-11 August 2011 in collaboration with the Government

of Chile (then acting as Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Rio Group), authorities from various Latin American and Caribbean countries and high-level international experts considered measures and political proposals for increasing the funding sources and mechanisms for development. They also discussed criteria for allocation among countries, emphasizing that a comprehensive answer to the challenges of development should not only be aimed at meeting the needs of low-income countries but also consider the different needs and weaknesses of middle-income countries. Also, on 27 September 2010, ECLAC hosted a Conference on investment for employment and development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was organized by the Government of Chile in conjunction with the Commission and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and brought together policymakers, international experts and other interested parties, such as companies, workers and civil society.

The Commission also organized a two-day seminar on the vulnerability of international trade in light of the carbon footprint, with the support of the Government of France and the European Union, on 2-3 September 2010. The purpose of the seminar was to raise member States’ awareness of the importance of assessing possible impacts and opportunities surrounding the use of the carbon footprint in international trade.

In the run-up to the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 16), the Commission hosted the regional seminar Agriculture and climate change: innovation, policies and institutions, which took place on 10-12 November 2010 and was jointly organized by ECLAC, the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), with support from the Government of France. The seminar gathered high-ranking technical and political officers from ministries of agriculture in the region and experts from research institutes and regional bodies, who assessed the impact of climate change on agriculture and discussed the public policies for adaptation and mitigation implemented in the region.

After COP 16, the Commission hosted the Meeting of Government-Designated Experts of Latin America and the Caribbean Preparatory to Rio+20: a green economy

¹ The participants included Alfredo Moreno, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile, as co-organizer; Lourdes Aranda, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs and Representative of the Government of Mexico to G20; Jorge Valero, Vice-Minister and Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations; Jorge Argüello, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations and President of the Group of 77 plus China; Adolfo Carafi, Deputy General-Director of Multilateral and Global Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile; Guilherme de Aguiar Patriota, Special Adviser to the Foreign Policy Unit of the Office of the President of Brazil; Verónica Legarda, Senior Deputy General Manager of the Central Bank of Ecuador; Joseph Deiss, President of the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly; Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; José Antonio Ocampo, former Executive Secretary of ECLAC and former Under-Secretary-General in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations; and Gert Rosenthal, former Executive Secretary of ECLAC and Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations.

in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development, at its headquarters in Santiago, on 15-16 December 2010. Here, awareness was raised of the importance for the region's policy agenda of key issues related to sustainable development and climate change.

Lastly, another major emerging issue for the countries of the region was the rise and volatility of food prices. The Commission organized two subregional high-level dialogues on this topic, one in South America (Santiago, 7-8 June 2011) and one in Central America (El Salvador, 15-16 June 2011), in order to exchange experiences and best practices among the countries of the region and contribute to a better understanding of how to cope with the challenges and opportunities created by food price behaviour, including its impact in the social spheres and the possibility of enhancing subregional trade in food and agricultural goods.

CONTRIBUTION TO ENHANCED POLICY COHERENCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE REGION

ECLAC continued to play an important role in progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the region. In 2010, ECLAC coordinated the preparation of the inter-agency report *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: progress and challenges*, in which 17 specialized agencies participated.² The report was launched at the regional preparatory meeting of the General Assembly High Level Event on the Millennium Development Goals, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on

20-21 May 2010, and at the XXV OAS Policy Roundtable. ECLAC also coordinated the inter-agency report on the advances and difficulties in attaining the targets of Goal 7 in the region, entitled *Millennium Development Goals: Advances in Environmentally Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, which was prepared in close collaboration with the regional offices of 12 United Nations agencies.³

The 2010 meeting of the Regional Coordination Mechanism was convened by ECLAC on 17-18 February 2010 at its subregional headquarters in Mexico. At the meeting, which was chaired by Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Latin American and Caribbean regional directors of United Nations agencies discussed the Millennium Development Goals, climate change, the political situation in the region and the contribution of the United Nations to regional cooperation. The regional directors stressed their commitment to strengthening inter-agency cooperation for addressing the development challenges of the region. The 2011 regional inter-agency coordination meeting was convened by ECLAC on 8-9 February 2011 at its headquarters in Santiago, and focused on preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012. The regional directors of United Nations agencies agreed to work together for Rio+20 and to produce an inter-agency document to assess progress and challenges in terms of sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean 20 years after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit), held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. In the context of these preparations, ECLAC hosted the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), on 7-9 September 2011.

In May 2011, ECLAC hosted the third meeting of the Regional Dialogue on the Costs of International Connections and their Impact on Broadband Prices, at which the Regional

² Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

³ United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Development Programme, UN-Habitat, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Population Fund, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Labour Organization, Pan American Health Organization, and United Nations Office for Project Services.

CEPAL Review 2010–2012



CEPAL Review has continued with its tradition of contributing to Latin American and Caribbean thinking on economic, social and environmental development through the publication of highly analytical works produced by renowned academics and researchers from prestigious universities and research centres in the region and beyond. These works either provide new perspectives on traditional development issues such as inequality related to credit markets, employment and structural change, the middle class, and so forth, or address new development-agenda topics such as the economics of climate change and violence among students. In this context, authors from Caribbean and Andean institutions have been represented more strongly in recent issues of the Review. The number of article downloads has risen to 280,786 for the last three Spanish editions (issues 102 to 104) and the last three English editions (issues 101 to 103).

In 2011, the CEPAL Review carried out a number of activities aiming at consolidating the new editorial project initiated in 2008. As a result, in 2011, the CEPAL Review became consolidated as the best-ranked publication of the ensemble of academic reviews produced in the region and indexed in the Social Sciences Citation Index, according to the Journal Citation Reports of Thomson Reuters. In earning this distinction it overtook other prestigious reviews such as the *Trimestre Económico*.

Among the Review's most notable projects was the translation of issues into French and Portuguese in 2010 and the preparation in 2011 of a special compilation of articles in Mandarin Chinese, which will be published in 2012. The Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC and CEPAL Review also began work on the implementation of a multimedia project on Raúl Prebisch and the challenges of the twenty-first century with the support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada.

Broadband Observatory was launched. The Observatory is intended to be an important source of information for the design and monitoring of public policies aimed at universalizing broadband in the region. Lastly, in November

2011, the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC took place in Bávaro, Dominican Republic, during which ministers, directors of national statistical offices, officials from other public institutions and central banks, and specialists from international organizations discussed the development of environmental statistics, the 2010 round of population censuses and the future challenges of national statistical systems in Latin America and the Caribbean.

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

The Commission has a public information strategy supporting its goals through a variety of activities and products, which target diverse audiences at the local, regional and global levels through both traditional mass media and the new social media.

Produced mostly in English, Spanish and Portuguese, ECLAC outreach materials provide newsworthy information which is printed, broadcasted and tweeted every day to promote the ECLAC brand and mission as a substantive think tank on development issues within the region. More than 1,509 informative materials produced by the Public Information and Web Services Section were posted on the ECLAC website and were widely disseminated through media outlets worldwide during the 2010-2011 biennium. The increased coverage of ECLAC activities in the mass media may be gauged by the number of references, including in leading global financial newspapers and magazines and television networks worldwide: more than 5,057 references during 2010-2011. The six flagship publications were disseminated and commented upon worldwide, with an average of 500 media clippings per week, in countries on five continents, and each launch attended in person by average of 40 journalists. During this period, the Unit coordinated 641 exclusive interviews for relevant media with the Executive Secretary of ECLAC and other spokespersons. The implementation in 2010 of ECLAC corporate accounts in the most relevant new social media (Twitter, Facebook, Flickr and YouTube) has contributed to the positioning of the Commission's key messages globally. These new tools represent a revolution in the communications sector and ECLAC has kept abreast of these technological developments, in fulfilment of the corporate guidelines on the matter issued by the United Nations Department of Public Information.



SUBPROGRAMME 1

1

LINKAGES WITH THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND COOPERATION

Oswaldo Rosales

Chief of the Division of International
Trade and Integration

During the 2010-2011 biennium the work of the subprogramme was conducted along two broad lines. First, the Division of International Trade and Integration continued to contribute to the improvement of the Latin American and Caribbean region's linkages with the global economy through the development of trade, integration and cooperation schemes at the subregional, regional and hemispheric levels, by strengthening linkages between Latin American and Caribbean countries and other economies. The second line of work relates to strengthening the role of ECLAC as a reliable partner for assistance and technical advice as well as a forum for building consensus in the area of international trade and integration among the countries of the region. Today the subprogramme has become a necessary reference in the region's economic and trade relations worldwide. Its relevance is further confirmed by the many requests ECLAC receives at seminars and workshops to produce documents, as well as by the number of countries adopting policies, mechanisms and measures in line with ECLAC recommendations.

The Division's most strenuous efforts were in the specific field of analysis and promotion of economic relations with other regions and countries. A broad range of elements support this statement, but perhaps the most prominent is the visit made to ECLAC by the Vice-President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, when he gave a presentation to a high-level audience. Most of the opinions expressed in his speech were reflected in the document prepared for the occasion under the subprogramme. In addition, a study, *The United States and Latin America and the Caribbean: highlights of economics and trade*, was prepared for the visit of President Barack Obama to Latin America in March 2011.

The subprogramme also was very active in the area of capacity-building, with the organization of many activities across a wide spectrum of international economy and global trade topics. Examples include the conference on Latin American and Caribbean labor markets and the global economy; meetings held within the framework of the project Changing nature of Asia-Latin American economic relations; and the workshop Trade and climate change in Latin America, held in Washington, D.C.

The subprogramme was very successful in disseminating its publications, as witnessed by the record number of downloads of the Division's publications in general, and of its flagship publication in particular. Downloads of the subprogramme's documents rose significantly, from 1,598,671 to 3,969,783 in the past biennium.

Besides striving to play a relevant role in the analysis of the current state of affairs as regards international trade and integration and their effects on the region, the subprogramme also pursues pioneering research in new and related fields of study, such as poverty reduction, gender equality, environment protection and the increasing significance of public-private partnerships for development.

TRADE AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

In recent decades, the world economy has undergone dramatic technological change and has witnessed the emergence of new drivers of growth, such as China, India and the Asia-Pacific region in general, and new developments in centre-periphery relations and global economic governance. These complex reconfigurations, and the projected “new normality” in the post-crisis scenario, present both challenges and opportunities, which the countries of the region must now face.

Over the past two years this scenario has resulted in emerging and developing regions (the South) increasing their share in world trade and economic variables. The recent economic recovery has developed a starkly two-speed pattern: while the South recovered rapidly from the crisis and its economies have burgeoned, the industrialized countries (the North) remain mired in difficulties.

Emerging markets present an increasing potential for Latin American and Caribbean exports, while the competitive challenges posed by these economies may trigger mounting pressure for old and new forms of protectionism. In addition, new issues referring to trade, such as its contribution to sustainable development and the new institutional context stemming from the reform of the State, as well as issues relating to public-private alliances and corporate social responsibility (CSR) will continue to be on the international agenda for the near future and the region must think strategically and take a stance with respect to them.

Although intraregional trade within Latin America and the Caribbean remains limited compared with other regions, the International Trade and Integration Division has assumed the challenge of continuing to strengthen the capacities of the countries and to improve coordinated, participatory and mutually informed policy responses on the need for greater regional cooperation, not only to contain the fallout from the recent crisis, but also to improve the region’s position in the global economy.

“...the research developed by the Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC and the assistance provided have been of invaluable help for the development of a policy towards strengthening links with China”

(Anabel González, Minister of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica).

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

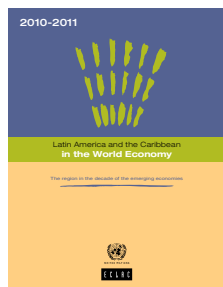
Research, analysis and dissemination

During the biennium the subprogramme’s work was organized around three main subject areas: (i) economic and commercial trends in Latin American international relations; (ii) internationalization strategies for Latin American and Caribbean countries with an emphasis on competitiveness, and negotiation and administration of trade agreements; and (iii) regional integration and cooperation, trade and climate change, and the promotion of positive linkages between trade and poverty reduction efforts, on the one hand, and gender equality, on the other.

In the last quarter of 2011, the flagship publication *Latin America in the World Economy 2010-2011, The Region in the Decade of the Emerging Economies*, which in itself reflects and defines the work of the subprogramme, was launched to the press. Representatives of universities (44%) and governments (12%) are the most frequent users of the flagship, while university students (27%) and researchers, scientists and teachers (23%) are the mainly professions of those who download copies. The various editions of the flagship have been downloaded over 300,000 times during the biennium, with 96% of readers considering the publication as good, very good or excellent, demonstrating the publication’s relevance for the region.

With regard to capacity-building for regional stakeholders, the work of the subprogramme has been highly acclaimed to judge by the impressive increase in the number of downloads, to approximately 4 million. Monthly downloads averaged 128,415 during the first 11 months of the biennium and 203,924 in the same period of the second year: an almost 59% increase. Staff received a total of 68 invitations to attend seminars, conferences, workshops and meetings, mainly to discuss topics related to trade relations between the Latin American and Caribbean region and China, the European Union, the United States and India. Other topics of interest discussed at these events were: trade and climate change, development of the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), trade and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), rising food prices and their effects in the region, and the increasing importance of Latin American multinational companies (Latin multinationals or trans-Latins). This is all evidence of the Division’s work in relation to international positioning strategies, with an emphasis

Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy 2010–2011. The region in the decade of the emerging economies.



This is an annual publication on trends in relation to the global economy and of international trade flows and their effects in the economies of the region. The 2010-2011 edition considers the topic of the region in the decade of the emerging economies. It is divided into

three chapters. Chapter I looks at the ways in which the difficult international economic environment in 2010-2011 resulted in emerging and developing regions (the South) increasing their share in world trade and economic variables. Chapter II looks at the main trends, especially in the past decade, in trade and investment between Latin America and the Caribbean and its three main partners outside the region: the United States, the European Union and the Asia-Pacific region. Chapter III discusses some of the main challenges that the transformations occurring in the global economy pose to economic integration efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean and summarizes the changes that will have the most impact on the region's future position in the global economy.

on competitiveness, negotiating and administering trade agreements, regional integration and cooperation, trade and environmental sustainability and trade assistance for poverty reduction.

Besides its annual flagship report, the Division's main outputs included publications which have influenced the recent regional debate on integration and on the region's role in the global economy. One such publication was the report *Opportunities for Convergence and Regional Cooperation*, which was presented at the Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean in Cancun, Mexico, in February 2010. Besides this document, many other publications were produced during the biennium with the aim of analysing the regional situation, including: *Invertir en integración. Los retornos de la complementariedad entre hardware y software*, which was prepared jointly by IDB, the World Bank and ECLAC for the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Finance of America and the Caribbean, held in Calgary, Canada, on 26 March 2011; *Modelling Public Policies*

in Latin America and the Caribbean, a joint publication by ECLAC and IDB, which carries studies on a variety of topics based on comparable methodologies; and *Temas controversiales en negociaciones comerciales Norte Sur*, a contribution by ECLAC to the debate on how North-South trade agreements and public policy interact in the light of the Latin American and the Caribbean experience.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina made a request under the subprogramme that ECLAC prepare a report on relations between Latin America and Asia to be presented to the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) which unites 16 Asian and 18 Latin American countries. A request was also received from the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Rio Group to prepare three reports on the region's relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Africa and the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), respectively.

During his visit to ECLAC, the Vice-President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, stated clearly that "China is willing to work with the nations of the region to increase mutual exports of high value-added products, expand trade and optimize the business structure", a position that has been upheld in the publications produced under the subprogramme, including *People's Republic of China and Latin America and the Caribbean. Ushering in a new era in the economic and trade relationship*.

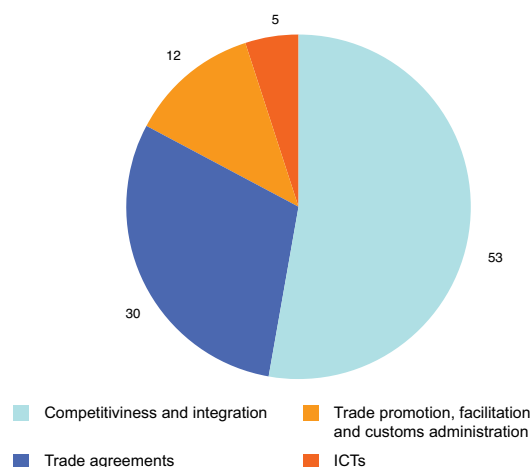
Also in this regard, the Division has been very active in analysing and promoting regional relations with other regions, as evidenced by the publications that describe recent trends in investment and trade relations between Latin America and other parties, as well as advancing proposals for improving such relations. Examples of such documents include *El Arco del Pacífico Latinoamericano: Construyendo caminos de complementación e integración con Asia*; *India and Latin America and the Caribbean. Opportunities and challenges in trade and investment relations*; and, in particular, *Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union: Striving for a Renewed Partnership*, which was prepared in the framework of preparations for the seventh European Union- Latin America and Caribbean Summit, which will take place in Santiago in 2012. In only one month, downloads of this document from the ECLAC website numbered over 25,000, demonstrating the interest

it has generated. A document was also prepared under the subprogramme on the occasion of President Barack Obama's visit to Latin America in March 2011: *The United States and Latin America and the Caribbean: highlights of economics and trade*.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

Figure 1

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



Through the Commission's regional analytical work, policy recommendations, technical assistance and participation in high-level events, policymakers and technical staff⁴ from 11 countries⁵ have enhanced their knowledge and capacities to identify trade opportunities and develop export strategies with the Asia-Pacific region. Representatives from seven regional and subregional integration schemes and development banks⁶ built up their knowledge and capacities for enhancing regional cooperation and integration; and 38 government officials from 19 countries⁷ improved their technical capacities regarding trade

and climate change and regional economic relations were strengthened through workshops and courses co-organized with IDB and UNDP, respectively. Furthermore, ECLAC helped to strengthen capacities in least three countries (Chile, Mexico and Peru) for enhancing corporate social responsibility (CSR) practices and provided technical cooperation to five countries⁸ in designing and promoting performance indicators for CSR and socio-environmental management in SMEs. A total of 515 participants in workshops organized by ECLAC recognized having enhanced their awareness and understanding of the impact of trade policy on poverty reduction. As regards overall satisfaction of the main beneficiaries of technical cooperation activities offered by the subprogramme, 93% evaluated these as "useful" or "very useful" for negotiating and managing trade agreements.

The Division also organized many activities across a wide spectrum of international economy and global trade fields. For instance, the conference Latin American and Caribbean labor markets and the global economy was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago on 14 and 15 June 2011. This conference is part of the International Collaborative Initiative on Trade and Employment (ICITE) in which 10 international organizations participate. The conference's main objective was to improve understanding of the mechanisms by which trade interacts with employment, with a view to promoting dialogue and developing policy-relevant conclusions.

Also with regard to capacity-building for regional stakeholders, together with other important international organizations, including OECD and the World Bank, the Division organized a regional conference of ICITE which brought together regional experts in the field to discuss their current research findings and priority agendas. Survey results indicated that 84% of participants were satisfied with the content of the meeting and intended to return to ECLAC to continue discussions on the subject.

The subprogramme also organized two meetings in the framework of the project Changing nature of Asia-Latin American economic relations, sponsored by the Government of the Republic of Korea. The project includes the study of four components: (i) insertion into and creation

⁴ From ministries of trade, industry and foreign affairs.

⁵ The Latin American Pacific Basin Initiative has the following member countries: Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru.

⁶ Andean Community, MERCOSUR, Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), Latin American Economic System (SELA), Central American Economic Integration Secretariat (SIECA), Mesoamerica Project and Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).

⁷ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Uruguay.

⁸ Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago.

of value chains; (ii) Latin American direct investment in Asia; (iii) search activities, location of natural resources; and (iv) integration in the service sector.

The workshop Trade and climate change in Latin America, held in Washington, D.C., on 22 and 23 September 2011, was jointly organized by ECLAC and IDB. The workshop brought together ministers and deputy ministers of trade in Latin America, renowned experts and representatives of private sector in the region. The dialogue focused on how the region's Governments and production sectors, supported by institutions such as ECLAC and IDB, can act together to turn the challenges posed by climate change into opportunities for regional export.

A workshop on indicators of foreign trade and trade policy was also organized under the subprogramme, on 24-27 October 2011 in Asuncion. This workshop was attended by officials from the Ministries of Finance, Industry and Commerce and Foreign Affairs and the National Customs Department of Paraguay.

The subprogramme also played a pioneering role in providing assistance to at least 12 countries in the region in organizing public sector institutional processes, strategic national visions and public-private alliances and consensus based on the analysis of success stories of public-private alliances outside the region examined by ECLAC. As a result, the subprogramme also provided technical cooperation activities by organizing a dozen seminars and workshops, which were highly praised by the attendees. One of these was the workshop on Areas of convergence and regional cooperation in Latin America, which was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago in July 2010, and organized by the Division of International Trade and Integration. Its main objective was to discuss with the various subregional integration schemes the proposals contained in the publication of the same name presented by ECLAC to Heads of State and Government of the region at the first Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Riviera Maya, Mexico, in February 2010.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

By mid-2011, conditions had deteriorated in the industrialized economies. Volatility and uncertainty have again reached worrying levels and leading composite indicators show that slower growth in the industrialized countries is starting to act as a drag on the main emerging economies. This indicates that those economies will experience slack growth for the next few years. The decade 2011-2020 could still be a boom period for the emerging economies but, given the great uncertainty augured for 2012, the main recommendation for Latin American and Caribbean economies is macroeconomic prudence, complemented by more strenuous efforts to further regional cooperation.

In this light, the programme of work of the Division will continue to generate knowledge, evaluate experience, and assess further development of an open, rule-based trading system; deepening and expanding economic integration schemes; and maximizing the contributions of trade and integration to the region's development process, and will adopt a problem-solving approach to support decision-making. This approach will further strengthen the role of ECLAC as a forum for policy discussion and exchange of experience and serve as a catalyst for consensus-building. The strategy will also include provision of advisory and technical cooperation services and other capacity-building activities to support countries of the region in their efforts to strengthen and improve their relevant human and institutional capacities.

Collaboration with bilateral and multilateral cooperation partners will be enhanced in order to provide additional resources to the subprogramme to strengthen the implementation of its programme of work and maximize its impact in beneficiary countries. Emphasis will be placed on the following areas: aid for trade, poverty and trade, public-private alliances, innovation and trade, trade competitiveness, trade facilitation, protectionism and new environmental rules, among others.



Mario Cimoli

Chief of the Division of Production,
Productivity and Management

SUBPROGRAMME 2

2

PRODUCTION AND INNOVATION

During the 2010-2011 biennium, ECLAC continued to provide research, technical assistance and a forum for regional dialogue on production activities in Latin America and the Caribbean through the work of the Division of Production, Productivity and Management. An important area of effort was the analysis of performance and challenges for key actors in production processes, such as transnational corporations, SMEs and the agricultural sector. Through its technical cooperation activities, ECLAC supported the Government of Costa Rica in presenting its State policy for the agri-food sector and rural development in Costa Rica, 2010–2021. Similarly, the Division assisted the Government of Argentina in the preparation and implementation of its Agri-Food and Agribusiness Strategic Planning 2020, by analysing value chains in 10 industries, and assistance was provided to the Government of Uruguay in the evaluation of the national quality infrastructure.

The Division also studied the processes of structural change, innovation and technological development, with a special focus on the key area of information and communications technologies (ICTs). The Regional Dialogue on Broadband was an ECLAC initiative designed to allow countries to exchange knowledge and best practices for developing broadband policies, especially in those aspects that affect service costs. Regarding ICTs, under the subprogramme ECLAC participated in the Regional Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC) and published a book entitled *ICTs for growth and equality: Renewing Strategies for the Information Society*, which sets forth the potential benefits of ICTs and suggests policy options for Governments.

During the biennium, the Division continued to disseminate the results of its research through the flagship report *Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean*, and in *The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: a Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean*.

Across these areas of work, the Division provided a consistent message on the need to strengthen policies to promote industrial and agricultural development and reduce disparities in productivity among industries and enterprises. In line with these recommendations, industrial policies are again being considered in a number of economies in the region, as a tool to pursue higher value-added activities across all economic sectors and agents.

PRODUCTION AND INNOVATION IN THE REGION

Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean experienced a continuous phase of strong economic growth from 2003 to 2008, which was interrupted by the international crisis of 2008-2009.

This boom phase was characterized by the progressive marginalization of existing industrial policies and the development of a productive structure geared towards natural-resource- and labour-intensive activities (such as export processing zones) with low technological and knowledge contents. Thus, when the international crisis of 2008-2009 broke out, Latin America and the Caribbean was handicapped by weak structural change, low production diversification, limited development of knowledge-intensive sectors and technological capabilities, and a widening productivity gap with other regions.

In the context of post-crisis recovery, the role of the Division during the biennium was to continue enhancing productive capacities and the role of the State, redefined to address this transition by reducing productivity gaps and strengthening technology, innovation and industrial diversification. These are essential ingredients of a sound post-crisis recovery in the region and may lead towards a long-term path of endogenously generated economic growth.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

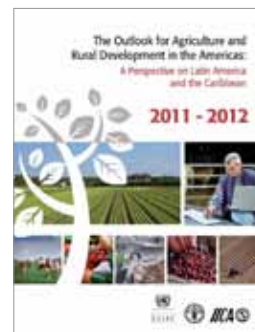
Research, analysis and dissemination

The Commission's work in the areas of foreign direct investment (FDI) and agriculture continued to be a reference for policymakers. Downloads of the flagship publication *Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean* numbered 1,145,328. The 2011 issue registered over 180,000 downloads between May and December of that year. Enhanced press coverage helped to expand the publication's outreach, as well, and it was referenced in articles in the *Wall Street Journal* and major newspapers in Latin American and the Caribbean. The percentage of readers finding the publication "useful" or "very useful" remained high at 97%, evaluating the presentation, contents, contribution to their work and thematic coverage among others.

The other prominent publication under the subprogramme was *The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean 2011-2012*, which was prepared for the Thirty-First FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Panama in April 2010. The document stresses the importance of having the right public policy instruments to boost agriculture and rural development in Latin American and Caribbean countries in a scenario of great regional challenges. This document registered over 70,000 downloads during the biennium.

The set of papers on productive development policies, which have been published on five occasions during the biennium, addressed topics such as the expansion strategy of trans-Latin corporations, dispute settlement mechanisms between States and investors, and agricultural and tourism sectors.

The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean 2011-2012



This third edition of *The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean* is an informative and analytical tool that is intended to promote a better understanding of these phenomena and their effects

for purposes of regional policymaking.

The document was prepared jointly by ECLAC, the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

The main publications prepared under the subprogramme, *Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean* and *The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean* registered over 1,200,000 downloads during the biennium.

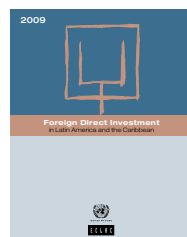
The project on dialogue and exchange of experiences carried out under the Alliance for the Information Society 2 (@lis2)⁹ continued to be implemented in 2010. Technical assistance missions were conducted in the areas of science, technology, innovation, FDI and agriculture, among others, in 10 different countries, and 15 publications were finalized. Two books were particularly well received by stakeholders: *ICTs for Growth and Equality: Renewing Strategies for the Information Society* and *Fast-tracking the digital revolution. Broadband for Latin America and the Caribbean*.

Lastly, the Division published a book entitled *ICT in Latin America. A microdata analysis*, which is the final report of the ECLAC-IDRC project Observatory for the Information Society in Latin American and the Caribbean (OSILAC). This project aims to develop understanding of the dynamics of the ICT revolution and produce evidence on its potential to promote socioeconomic development. Accordingly, microdata analysis drawn from national household surveys and national innovation surveys conducted in Latin America were used in the effort to fulfil those objectives. Both statistical information sources have potential to inform research not only on determinants of innovation activities and technology diffusion, but also on its economic impacts.

Also in relation to ICTs, the 17 Latin American and Caribbean countries which have adopted the Regional Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the preparatory meeting for the third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean in Montevideo, in September 2010, to discuss a long-term strategy for the region, which asserts that information and communications technologies are instruments of economic development and social inclusion. The agreements reached during this meeting, as set forth in the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015), were adopted by delegates in the Lima Declaration, at the culmination of the third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held from

⁹ This project, funded by the European Union, aims to support the development of a sustainable, more competitive and inclusive Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, both from the Governments' standpoint and with the diffusion of best local practices.

Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2009 and 2010 editions



This annual publication monitors trends and determinants of foreign direct investment flows in the region and offers specific case studies. The 2009 edition focused on two areas: the automobile and iron and steel industries. These two industries were chosen for their strong linkages

with each other and the rest of the economy, their great sensitivity to the business cycle and the strong presence of transnational and trans-Latin companies. In each of the three areas of the report, it was found that the crisis—despite the cushion provided by the economic boom that lasted more than five years in much of the region—has had an adverse impact and that public policy has played a key role in mitigating the most damaging consequences of the economic slowdown, particularly in activities that are highly sensitive to the variables that drive investment (the iron and steel industry) or disposable income (the automobile industry).



The 2010 edition was launched in Mexico City by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC in May 2011. A separate event was held in Sao Paulo later that month. The document, which was very well received by the media and public, examines how in 2010 the Latin

American and Caribbean region showed great resilience to the international financial crisis and became the world region with the fastest-growing flows of both inward and outward FDI. This publication is divided into five sections. The first offers a regional overview of FDI in 2010. The second examines FDI trends in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic. The third describes the growing presence of China as an investor in the region. Lastly, the fourth and fifth sections analyse the main foreign investments and business strategies in the telecommunications and software sectors, respectively.

21 to 23 November in Lima, and was attended by almost 300 participants, including delegates from 18 countries, Government authorities and representatives of international agencies and civil society.

"...the mere fact of Chile coordinating with Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay has been enough to affect the markets. The average cost of international connections came down from US\$ 100 to US\$ 60 since Chile suggested this course. In 2011 we will see further advances, with a key role being played by ECLAC".

Jorge Atton, Undersecretary for Telecommunications of Chile, in his column entitled "Towards the knowledge society", *La Tercera* newspaper, December 2010.

In order to provide training for Government officials responsible for designing, following up, assessing and implementing policies in science, technology and innovation, and to enable the sharing of knowledge and experiences, ECLAC organized the School for Policymakers in Science, Technology and Innovation, at its headquarters in Santiago, Chile, from 13 October to 5 November, 2010, in collaboration with Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGmbH (InWent¹⁰). All the participants at the Management school on science, technology and innovation policies rated the event as either "useful" or "very useful".

The Management school on science, technology and innovation policies is a new format through which managers in relevant ministries in Latin America learn from the latest research on these topics and are actively encouraged to take action and form partnerships with each other to foster science and innovation in their countries. The second event took place in Germany in 2011, and the Government of Uruguay offered to organize the third in 2012. As a result of this initiative, Costa Rica and Brazil signed an agreement to collaborate on nanotechnology and space technology. In a similar line, the Management school on broadband policies in Latin America and the Caribbean served representatives from seven countries.

The 2010 and 2011 editions of the Commission's postgraduate summer school hosted 53 young postgraduate and PhD students (28 of whom were women) from 17 countries. During the courses three workshops were held: Macro-structural policies for development, Strategies for development and Structural dynamics and growth. Evaluation surveys showed that 82% of respondents found the knowledge gained, organization and academic level, "useful" or "very useful".

¹⁰ Capacity-building International, an entity of the Government of Germany dedicated to human resource development and institution-building in the field of international cooperation.

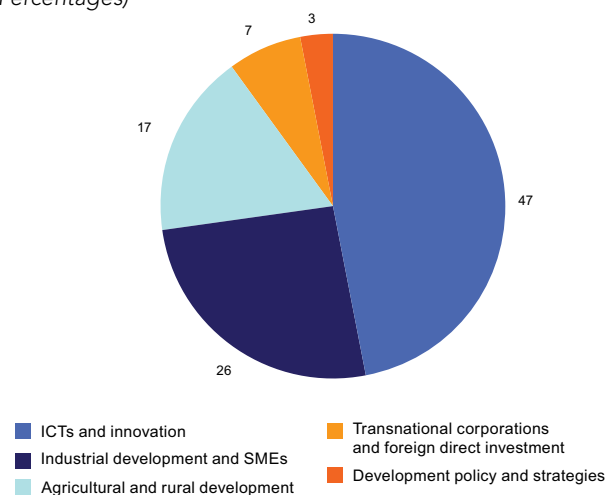
The Regional Dialogue on Broadband

The Regional Dialogue on Broadband is an ECLAC initiative designed to allow countries to exchange knowledge and best practices for developing broadband policies, especially in those aspects that affect service costs. It started in August 2010 with five countries. At its second meeting in November 2010, the participating countries requested ECLAC to design and implement a statistical tool to analyse the broadband market. With that aim in mind, ECLAC proposed setting up a Regional Broadband Information Observatory (ORBA), which was launched on 27 May 2011. The fourth meeting of the Regional Dialogue on Broadband took place in October 2011 and was attended by senior officials representing the 10 participating countries: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

Figure 1

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



The countries of the region rely increasingly on the Commission's work on policy formulation in the areas of science, technology and innovation. Five countries have adopted measures recommended by ECLAC, and 94%¹¹ of participants in technical cooperation activities rated them as useful for their work.

¹¹ 95% of participants in the regional seminar Agriculture and climate change: institutions, policy and innovation considered it useful or very useful. 100% of participants at the Management

In this connection, technical cooperation was provided under the subprogramme for the implementation and monitoring of the Regional Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC), including the definition of progress indicators. In addition, capacity-building through training and advisory services benefited 260 policymakers and technical staff from 16 Latin American and 12 Caribbean countries,¹² in the areas of design and implementation of strategies, policies and measures to foster innovation, science and technology. The Division also assisted 10 countries of the region¹³ in the analysis of policy alternatives for broadband development and regional integration options for broadband infrastructure.

In addition, technical cooperation was provided to: Nicaragua, for the design of its National Plan on Science, Technology and Innovation (2010-2013); Bolivia (Plurinational State of), for the development of the Bolivian Digital Agenda; Ecuador, for the presentation of the Digital 2.0 plan; Argentina, for the preparation and implementation of industrial and agribusiness strategic plans; and Uruguay, for the evaluation of the country's national quality infrastructure.

The President of Costa Rica and the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock presented the State Policy for the Agricultural sector and Rural Development in Costa Rica 2010 – 2021, which was adopted by the Government of Costa Rica and was prepared with support of the subprogramme through technical cooperation missions, both for the preparation of the document and for the final summary, which incorporates the result of the consultation carried out with the main stakeholders of the sector.

school on science, technology and innovation policies and 90% of those at the Trade, Innovation Policy and Small States Training Programme in Barbados rated the respective event as useful or very useful. This rating was also given by 94% of participants at the seminar on quality infrastructure (Santiago, 10-11 March 2011), 100% of those at the workshop on SME policies (Montevideo, 15 July 2011); 100% of those in the Dialogues for inclusive and innovative digital agendas in Latin America and the Caribbean held in Bolivia (Plurinational State of); and 83% of those at the seminar on SME policies in Mexico (Mexico City, 19th May 2011).

¹² Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay; and Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

¹³ Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

"the technical support we have received [...] has enabled us, relatively quickly, to develop a policy for the sector for the first time. The policy serves as a framework and guide for action in the short, medium and long terms that will contribute to economic growth and social and environmental development in the country".

Tatiana López Lee, Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, 6 September 2011.

At the request of the Ministry of Industry of Argentina, between February and May 2011, ECLAC analysed 10 different value chains in the country: automotive, footwear, medicines, capital goods, agricultural machinery, construction materials, poultry and pork meat processing, dairy products, textiles and apparel, and software. Based on these diagnostics, the Ministry organized a series of round tables with the main public and private stakeholders in each value chain, in which ECLAC participated as technical secretariat. The diagnosis, as well as the reports from the round tables, formed the basis for the Argentina's Agri-Food and Agribusiness Strategic Planning 2020, which the President of the Republic launched formally on 4 October 2011.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

In the context of post-crisis recovery the strategic vision of this subprogramme will be based on: (i) the need to strengthen public-policy efforts to achieve productive convergence and meet goals of technological development and productivity in all productive sectors and (ii) a comprehensive approach to innovation and technology, which is summarized in terms of a national innovation system. In this respect, emphasis will also be placed on new technologies aimed at increasing social innovation and competitiveness of SMEs, particularly in agribusiness and related fields.

The subprogramme will be aimed at further strengthening the development of production sectors, fostering production convergence and reducing productivity gaps in Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular in relation to the following: (i) industry, agriculture and services; (ii) foreign investment and transnational corporations; (iii) domestic economic agents, ranging from small firms to large domestic groups, and the relations between public and private agents, and (iv) innovation and new technologies, with emphasis on information and communications technologies, biotechnologies and nanotechnology.

MACROECONOMIC
POLICIES AND GROWTH**Juan Alberto Fuentes**Chief of the Economic
Development Division

For Latin America and the Caribbean, 2010 and 2011 were characterized by recovery from the global economic and financial crisis that had struck the region during the preceding years. However, the performance of the economies was uneven across the region during this period. This posed new challenges for the analytical work and the technical support provided by the Economic Development Division for the member countries of ECLAC.

In this context, the challenges arising from the increased capital inflows to the region and the commodity price boom, as well as the policy dilemmas faced by the Governments and the policy alternatives at hand were analysed at a high-level meeting in April 2011 and in the 2010-2011 edition of one of the Division's flagship publications, *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*. The 2009-2010 edition of the *Economic Survey* was devoted to another key issue for the region's economic and social development: the distributive impact of public policies, which was also debated at two high-level meetings held in April and August 2010. The Division's other flagship publication, *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, which provides timely and accurate analysis of the region's economic performance and outlook at the end of every year, is of great interest to policymakers, academics, analysts, the media and the general public, as witnessed by the large number of downloads and broad reporting in the media.

High levels of volatility pose a serious problem for public policy, in particular fiscal policy. The experience of several Latin American Governments with the management of revenue volatility, especially as it relates to income from natural-resources exploitation, was analysed in a workshop in August 2010. A number of countries in the region face challenges related to fiscal decentralization; these were addressed in a specific study, some of whose results were presented at regional and global seminars. To improve the diffusion of information, the Division created the Fiscal Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean, which allows a quick access to all the relevant information.

Many Governments face obstacles to increasing their revenue in a way that would enable them to function more effectively, for example, in infrastructure investment and social development. In this regard, the Division provided technical assistance on the design of a fiscal reform, at the request of the Government of Paraguay. At the request of the Government of Uruguay, the Division is working on an evaluation of the tax reform implemented in 2007. To strengthen institutional capacities in the region, the Division participates in a series of seminars for members of national parliaments, with a module on fiscal policy for social cohesion.

Building labour market institutions is crucial for creating high-quality jobs for an increasing proportion of the population, which is necessary in order to reduce the region's still-high levels of poverty and inequality. To strengthen this process, a project coordinated by the Division analysed aspects such as national training systems, experiences with social dialogue, and the role of the labour-related rules included in the free trade agreements signed by El Salvador and Peru. The results were presented and discussed in tripartite seminars held both at a national level and comparatively with information on the experience from other countries of the region.

In addition, the Division published several issues of the bulletin it produces jointly with the International Labour Organization (ILO)—the ECLAC/ILO Bulletin—on the evolution of Latin American and Caribbean labour markets and policies for improving their performance. These publications were distributed at high-level meetings (including the International Labour Conference in Geneva).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

Latin America and the Caribbean experienced an unexpectedly vigorous economic recovery in 2010 after the output contraction of 2009. This upturn was reflected in the region's employment and unemployment rates, which resumed the positive trends that had been broken by the crisis, and in a slight rise in formal wages.

At the regional level, growth in all demand components was down in 2011, after the brisk recovery in 2010 from the lows during the global financial crisis. ECLAC projected growth of 4.3% for the Latin American and Caribbean economy in 2011, lower than the rate in 2010 when the region was rebounding from the impacts of the economic and financial crisis of 2008-2009. The unemployment rate fell from 7.3% in 2010 to 6.8% in 2011 and credit continued to expand rapidly. The deficit on the balance-of-payments current account widened slightly to 1.4% of GDP.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

During the biennium the Division embraced the challenge of increasing the capacity of policymakers and other stakeholders of Latin America and the Caribbean to design and implement consistent short-term macroeconomic policies within a long-term, growth-enhancing framework, and strengthening their capacities to design and implement policies and instruments to foster long-run growth and facilitate macroeconomic integration.

The Division's research is disseminated mainly through its two flagship publications. One, *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean* focuses on the analysis of a particular subject of relevance to the region, while presenting a summarized overview of regional economic performance in the reporting period. The other, *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean* analyses current economic issues in the region and makes economic growth forecasts for the following year.

The subjects identified for the two editions of the *Economic Survey* published in the biennium were the distributive impact of public policies for the 2009-2010 edition and, in view of the feedback received that year, macroeconomic policies, international integration and international financial markets for the 2010-2011 edition.

Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean 2010-2011



Throughout its 60 years of existence, *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean* has become an important source of information and analysis of the economic situation in the region, frequently referred to and cited by government authorities and regional experts. As such, it has helped to shape thinking on development challenges from a Latin American and Caribbean perspective.

In this publication, ECLAC analyses the current state and future prospects of the region's economies and addresses contemporary topics such as the challenges of voluminous international financial market liquidity and high prices for the region's main commodities.

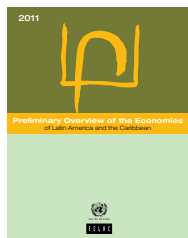
This edition is divided into two sections. The first part surveys the main determinants of the region's economic development in 2010 and the first half of 2011, as well as the impact in the region of recent events in world markets. The second part offers an analysis of international markets and macroeconomic policy challenges.

During the biennium a total of 36 research and analytical documents were published—apart from the subprogramme's flagships—either in the working paper series *Macroeconomía del desarrollo* or under some other umbrella.

Through its working paper series *Macroeconomía del desarrollo*, the Division disseminated relevant economic analysis on fiscal policy and labour markets, including a variety of specialized, in-depth macroeconomic analyses, such as “Macroeconomic challenges of fiscal decentralization in Latin America in the aftermath of the global financial crisis”. This paper discussed how fiscal decentralization is affecting macroeconomic management in the main Latin American countries; and how the existing fiscal systems across the various levels of government in those countries could be reformed to strengthen fiscal sustainability, minimize the risk of procyclicality at all levels of government, and create fiscal space for active countercyclical responses to economic shocks.

Fostering collaboration among United Nations agencies has been another key aspect of the Division's work. ECLAC

Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean 2011



This publication appears at the end of each year. It contains a description and assessment of the economic performance of the region during the year and provides updated, detailed information about the evolution of macroeconomic variables in the region as an aggregate and in most individual countries. It is thus the earliest source of information on the region's economic performance for the year overall.

The report includes a regional panorama from both a global and a sectoral perspective; and growth projections for the following year. Individual country chapters cover all Latin American and many Caribbean economies. This document is prepared by the Economic Development Division in collaboration with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division and the Commission's subregional headquarters and national offices.

In the 2011 edition, ECLAC estimated growth of 4.3% for the Latin American and Caribbean region in 2011, lower than the rate in 2010 when the region was rebounding from the impacts of the economic and financial crisis of 2008-2009. Expectations for 2012 are for slacker growth of the global economy and a heavy dose of uncertainty and volatility in financial markets. In this context, ECLAC forecasts that the region will see its growth slow again—to 3.7%—but will be spared a fresh economic crisis.

and ILO continued to produce regular issues of the ECLAC/ILO bulletin, with the aim of providing the region with the information and analyses needed to face the challenges posed by the region's labour markets and the corresponding policy options. As discussed in the third issue of the bulletin, the crisis did less damage to the region's labour markets than had been feared at the beginning of 2009, thanks to the implementation of public policies geared towards employment, as reviewed in issues 1 and 2. The third issue offered an additional analysis from the perspective of gender equality. The fourth issue analysed how the economic upturn was manifested at the regional level by the creation of formal employment, a rise in the employment rate, a decline

The various editions of these flagship publications registered almost 3 million downloads during the biennium. Reader surveys—including questions about presentation, relevance, thematic coverage, and analytic issues—answered by policymakers, academics, journalists, representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector economists, show a 96.1% overall satisfaction rate.

in joblessness, and a moderate increase in real wages. It also discussed the green jobs approach, offering some information on the challenges and opportunities involved in moving towards a sustainable economy in the region and presenting a set of options for addressing environmental issues and the repercussions of climate change in the world of work. The fifth issue looked at how labour markets responded to the rapid economic upswing in 2010 and early 2011, highlighting both the significant advances achieved in the post-crisis period and the sharp differences evident across subregions and countries.

Forecasting methods

The Division developed and implemented a number of different forecasting methods to support a better analysis of the short- and long-term growth of the region's economies. These methods and their applications were set forth in the following publications: (i) *Estimación del crecimiento potencial de América Latina*; (ii) *Indicadores adelantados para América Latina*; and (iii) *Latin-STINGs: Indicadores de crecimiento a corto plazo de los países de América Latina*.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

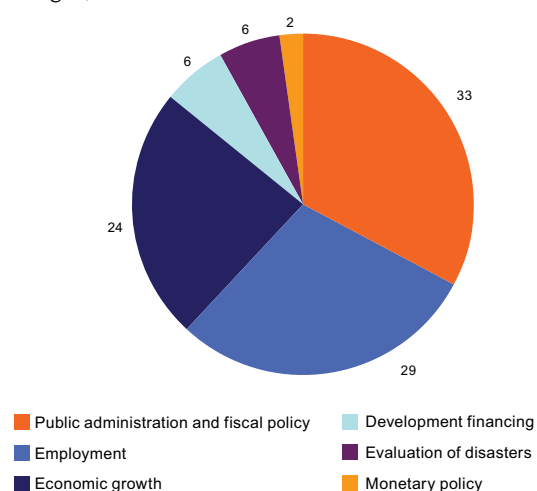
Besides the drafting and publication of its two flagship reports, the Economic Development Division organized several expert group meetings and workshops during the biennium. Given the nature and objectives of these events, the participants included representatives of public institutions, policymakers and government officials from the region.

The Division continued to present and discuss with policymakers and academics a number of analytical studies regarding crises, stabilization and reactivation, recovery of employment and macroeconomic policies, among other topics. In April 2010, an expert meeting on the distributive impact of public policies—the special subject chosen

for the 2009-2010 edition of *Economic Survey*— was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, with the aim of stimulating policy discussions. In a short survey distributed to gauge the participants' opinion on the content and relevance of the presentations and the meeting in general, 94% rated them "useful" or "very useful", 94.4% said that they would make use of them in their work, and all rated this type of meeting and its relevance to strengthening the discussion of the macroeconomic issues facing the countries as "useful" or "very useful".

Figure 3

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



A follow-up event to the expert meeting on the distributive impact of public policies took place at ECLAC headquarters in August 2010. This event consisted of six conferences and was entitled Public policy and distributive impact. The speakers included ECLAC officials and consultants, scholars and policymakers, who reflected upon the outcomes of the expert meeting in April. The follow-up event concluded with a round table discussion of the findings of the suite of conferences and the expert meeting, with a keynote address delivered by Fernando Lorenzo, Minister of Economy and Finance of Uruguay.

In addition, ECLAC contributed to the debate on the role of fiscal policy in the region and beyond in the context of global crisis, through the organization of several workshops at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago: Fiscal policy for the strengthening of democracy in Latin America (27-28 April 2010), Macroeconomic volatility and fiscal space (3-4 August 2010), After the Bicentennial: institutions and economic development in Latin America (30 September

97.2% of participants in networks organized by the subprogramme considered the work of the forums and their policy recommendations to be "useful" or "very useful" for long-term growth and macroeconomic integration.

The expert meeting "contributed to the preparation of our 2011-2015 medium-term macroeconomic plan, which serves as the basis for the formulation of the Multiannual public sector plan and for the 2012 preliminary budget plan".

Dr. Alexis Cruz Rodríguez, Coordinator of the Macroeconomic Division, Economic and Social Analysis Advisory Unit, Ministry of Economics, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic.

2010), and Regional financial architecture: challenges to promote economic development (28 November 2011). Participants from Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union attended and participated actively in the discussions. At these seminars the Division disseminated technical and policy documents on stimulus measures, fostering of sustainable development, protection of the most vulnerable sectors of the population and efforts to achieve greater social cohesion, which fostered debate and policy discussion among government officials from ministries of finance, central banks and other institutions.

The Division also ran several extrabudgetary projects related to fiscal policy and labour markets. The main donors during this cycle were the Government of Spain, through the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), and the Government of Germany, through the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). Projects in the fiscal area focused on economic growth, sustainability, fiscal decentralization, social cohesion and equity. Among their main results is the creation of the Fiscal Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean (OFILAC), a website platform to contribute to the improvement of fiscal policies by disseminating studies and promoting debate among different actors in the region. Also, the Government of El Salvador benefited technical assistance in the form of a meeting held to analyse and discuss recommendations and challenges related to public management of social policies. Furthermore, a delegation from the Ministry of Finance of Ecuador received technical assistance on tax policy, tax evasion, the distributional

"We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Division of Economic Development for the series of collaborative initiatives and activities undertaken with our Ministry in 2010, particularly on the topic of promoting employment and professional training. This assistance has enabled our Ministry to implement a set of initiatives and to formulate policies as part of the new role assigned to us under the recent Organizational and Functional Legislative Act... these activities have contributed to our work in analysing and formulating our Ministry's policies and actions in these thematic areas".

Extract from a letter from Javier Barreda Jara, Deputy Minister for Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment Promotion of Peru, 18 March 2011.

impact of fiscal reforms, countercyclical fiscal policy and public debt management. Under the employment policy and labour market component of the ECLAC-AECID programme Policy and instruments to promote growth in Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC lent assistance to the ministries of labour of El Salvador and Peru, especially in the areas of training, social dialogue and the labour market clauses of free trade agreements. The results were presented and discussed in tripartite seminars held at the national level and comparative seminars incorporating the experiences of other countries of the region.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

The biennium underscored the diversity among countries in the region regarding structural conditions for growth and development. Similar to the experience in the crisis context of the previous biennium, the global scenario of 2010-2011 created very diverse challenges and opportunities, depending on the particular country's productive structure, level of integration into global markets and macroeconomic policy space. The Economic Development Division took this diversity into account, for example in the analysis published in the 2010-2011 edition of the *Economic Survey* on the consequences of increased capital flows and high commodity prices, and in the study of the different degrees of vulnerability to a future crisis contained in *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*. The Division will deepen its economic analysis based on the differentiation of individual countries and

Labour market policies in Colombia and Nicaragua

An evaluation report on specific ECLAC technical cooperation activities, produced in 2010, found that policymakers in Colombia and Nicaragua had benefited from the subprogramme's work in the field of labour market policies as a relevant area for fostering sustainable long-term growth. Specifically, it found that papers produced under the subprogramme and the corresponding dissemination activities aided Colombia's decision-making processes in the fields of rural youth employment and vocational training for vulnerable groups, thanks to their multifaceted comparative analysis and emphasis on practical policy approaches. For Nicaragua, the evaluation report found that the subprogramme's recommendations were being applied in youth labour market programmes, youth vocational training, programmes on women's labour-market integration, as well as in schemes for supporting and formalizing microenterprises and SMEs.

on analytical categories grouping countries with similar structural characteristics.

The high levels of uncertainty in the world economy in the past few years make it all the more necessary to provide relevant, regularly updated information for ECLAC stakeholders. To meet this demand better, the Economic Development Division is designing a publication schedule that foresees quarterly reports on the short-term evolution of the economies of the region.

During the biennium the Division greatly enhanced its forecasting capacities. A self-evaluation in this area showed positive results, in comparison with projections produced by other institutions, and identified areas for further improvements, among others in order to account for limited data availability—especially from certain countries, such as those in the Caribbean—and uncertainty of the macroeconomic environment. With this in mind, new innovative techniques are being investigated and put to use to forecast the short-, medium- and long-term economic performance of the region's economies.

All of the abovementioned issues require detailed and up-to-date data inputs. In order to improve data flows, the Division will maintain and strengthen contact with country officials in national and subregional offices.



Martin Hopenhayn

*Chief of the Social
Development Division*

SUBPROGRAMME 4

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY

4

In 2010 and 2011, the Latin American and Caribbean region experienced solid economic growth and job creation which contributed to poverty reduction. However, social vulnerability remains extremely high and socioeconomic gaps large. Consequently, the work of the subprogramme in the biennium focused on strengthening social protection and care provision with a redistributive emphasis, improving social expenditure and child poverty analysis, studying and promoting the positive impact of ICTs on health and education, and disseminating innovative social development projects.

Prominent results of this work include:

Regarding care provision policies, the subprogramme supported the development of a national care system in Uruguay and the establishment of a national care network for the elderly in Costa Rica.

In the area of social protection, advisory services were provided under the subprogramme to Governments of the region on the development of their social protection strategies. Specific cases are missions to Ecuador—to evaluate the country's integral social protection system—and to El Salvador to support the design of the social protection system.

With respect to the dissemination of innovative social development projects, the main outcomes concern civil society initiatives which have been replicated in eight countries of the region. Support was also provided to government initiatives to study and evaluate the impact of ICTs on health and education services. One important result was the creation of a network of 31 health experts spanning 12 countries of the region.

Lastly, social policy knowledge dissemination was promoted via the virtual Latin American and Caribbean Network of Social Institutions (RISALC). The strong demand for information on social development issues is also evidenced by downloads of the flagship publication *Social Panorama of Latin America*, which numbered almost 1 million during the biennium 2010-2011.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

More than two and a half decades after the debt crisis, Latin American and Caribbean countries face three major structural changes: the ageing of their population, relatively high rates of underemployment, acute gaps in human capital and low levels of fiscal resources for compensatory social transfers. Overall, the social panorama of the region is unsatisfactory, albeit with significant differences between countries. Poverty and inequality are decreasing in the region; the main reasons are, first, rising labour income and, second, increasing public transfers to the most vulnerable sectors. But the productive gaps are still rigid, and there is limited mobility for specific groups in low-productivity sectors whose income has not increased. Fertility is declining substantially, which may mean greater possibilities for well-being among families with fewer dependents. It is plain to see that social expenditure is increasing, as is the response (in terms of social spending and protection) to mitigate the impacts of the 2008-2009 crisis on the most vulnerable sectors. But social protection systems are far from inclusive and have gaps that reproduce vulnerability and stratified access to social security.

Economic activity and employment recovered quickly after the 2009 crisis. In 2010, Latin America's per capita GDP grew by 4.8%, the employment rate rose by 0.6 percentage points and the labour force participation went up by 0.3 percentage points. In this setting, the regional poverty rate was 31.4% (including 12.3% living in extreme poverty or indigence). This represents a reduction of 7 million poor (from 184 million in 2009 to 177 million in 2010). Further strides in poverty reduction were made in 2011 as regards the poverty rate, which declined by 1 percentage point, but the indigence rate rose by half a percentage point over 2010 (representing an increase of 3 million people).

It is widely known that income distribution in the countries of Latin America is among the most unequal in the world. However, distribution has been improving in the region and this did not change in the wake of the economic crisis. Before 2008, which basically reflects pre-crisis levels, the Gini coefficient was falling by 1% or more per year in 10 countries, with Guatemala posting the only appreciable increase (data to 2006). The figures for 2010, which reflect, approximately, the immediate post-crisis scenario, show that inequality did not increase significantly in any of the

11 countries for which there is information. Quite the contrary, in fact: in three countries (the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Mexico and Uruguay) the Gini coefficient fell by more than 2% per year, and in two other countries (El Salvador and Peru) it fell by at least 1% per year.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

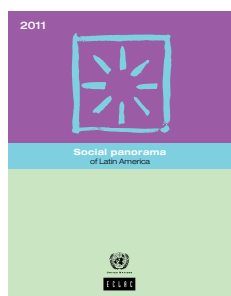
During the biennium the subprogramme strategy consisted of developing applied research, generating analyses, disseminating the results and formulating policy recommendations to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to make sound diagnoses of social issues for application in policies and programmes. Another important element of the strategy was to strengthen existing networks to generate, update and disseminate relevant information and facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices among policymakers, scholars and other interested stakeholders.

In this connection, the division's flagship publication, *Social Panorama of Latin America*, contributed greatly during the biennium to disseminating these results. The 2010 edition homed in on inequality gaps and their intergenerational reproduction. It showed how the life cycle path is determined by differences in skill development and how inequality and poverty become entrenched as people move from one stage of life to the next. The latest edition (2011) takes a more in-depth look at the chain that produces and reproduces social gaps; it addresses other spheres as well. It focuses on how structural heterogeneity, labour segmentation and gaps in social protection are linked along the chain.

During the biennium, total downloads of the 2009, 2010 and 2011 editions of *Social Panorama of Latin America* combined, in English, Spanish and Portuguese, numbered 970,854. This is indicative of the demand for crucial information for assessing social conditions, advances in poverty reduction, migration and health issues, public social expenditure and the role of ECLAC in furthering the regional social development agenda.

The Spanish version of the 2010 edition was consulted mainly by universities (49%), individuals (10%), governments (8%), and NGOs (8%); readers' professions were mainly

Social Panorama of Latin America 2011



The 2011 edition of *Social Panorama of Latin America* took a more in-depth look at the chain that produces and reproduces social gaps. It focused on how structural heterogeneity (productivity gaps in the national economies), labour segmentation and gaps

in social protection are linked along the chain. Demographic factors such as fertility differentiated by education and income level are discussed, as are more specific patterns of risk and exclusion like those impacting young people in the Caribbean. These gaps make for an ambivalent scenario in the region, combining structural tendencies that reinforce them with recent, favourable developments that open new possibilities for advancing towards less unequal societies with broader access to well-being. Poverty and inequality are decreasing in the region; the main reasons being, first, rising labour income and, second, increasing public transfers to the most vulnerable sectors. But the productive gaps are still rigid, and there is still little mobility for specific groups in low-productivity sectors (especially women in lower-income socioeconomic groups) whose income has not increased. Fertility is declining substantially, which may mean greater possibilities for well-being among families with fewer dependents.

students (31%), researchers, scientists and teachers (26%) and consultants (12%). Publication downloads during the biennium were principally by readers in Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Argentina and Peru. A survey revealed that 64% of readers considered the publication “very useful” and 36% considered it “useful”.

The extensive list of publications produced under the subprogramme included the book *Latin America in the Mirror. Objective and Subjective Dimensions of Social Inequity and Well-Being in the Region*, which was prepared by ECLAC and Latinobarómetro, with support from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). The publication outlines the results of a pioneering study carried out with Latinobarómetro on the relationship between the region’s economic conditions and people’s expectations in 18 countries of Latin America

and the Caribbean. Through this publication, ECLAC hopes to contribute to the design of more comprehensive public policies with a view to achieving significant reductions in poverty and inequality in the region.

During the biennium, the Division’s publications were downloaded 3,882,243 times, which illustrates the effectiveness of its efforts to disseminate information on innovative analyses relating to social protection systems, policies and poverty dynamics.

In 2010 ECLAC launched a study entitled *The Economy of Child Care in Haiti*, which proposes that social policies for women and children should be the pillar of reconstruction in Haiti. The report addresses the issue of public policymaking in support of child care by analysing the family as the prime caregiver and the need to advance towards a model of universal social protection. In this context, preschool education policies are a priority, asserts the study.

The Division also prepared the study *Social protection and employment generation: analysis of experiences from co-responsibility transfer programs*, which examines the links involved in coordinating actions in the fields of employment and social protection. The focus is on transfer programmes with co-responsibility, which are aimed at providing society’s most vulnerable with access to a single, comprehensive and expanding system of social protection by providing transfers subject to co-responsibilities on the part of beneficiaries. Meanwhile, the study *Social innovation and local economic development*, prepared jointly with ILPES, investigates the impact of socially innovative experiences on local economic development in the areas concerned.

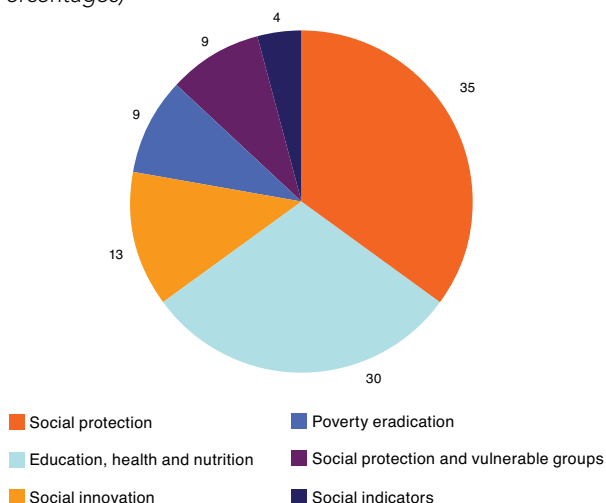
TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

The Division has provided valuable cooperation services to the Governments of the region on issues related to social protection systems. A particular impact was achieved by the assistance provided to the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) of Uruguay to develop a national care system that takes into account issues related to the unpaid care economy and addresses different dependent groups, such as children and the elderly. Also, technical assistance on social protection provided to the Ministry of Social Welfare and Family of Costa Rica focused specifically

on the elderly, while assistance to the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion of Ecuador consisted of discussing ECLAC recommendations on inclusive social protection with a rights-based approach, giving special consideration to child care and cash transfer programmes.

Figure 4

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



Thirteen countries adopted new institutional social frameworks combining market, State and family policies, with cooperation from ECLAC. Uruguay adopted the Commission's guiding principle for the development of a national care system with due consideration for equality, universality and solidarity. Fifteen countries —Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)— carried out studies on the costs involved in reaching the 2021 Education Goals using the methodology developed by ECLAC. Furthermore, the Division has continued to provide technical cooperation services to the countries of the region to develop methodologies for measuring social expenditure, improving management of social programmes and estimating the cost of hunger, while technical assistance workshops on social policies and social expenditure were carried out by virtual means in Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and face-to-face in El Salvador, Paraguay and Peru. Post-workshop evaluation surveys were administered in El Salvador and Paraguay, to gain immediate feedback and ascertain beneficiary satisfaction with the assistance provided by posing specific relevant questions.

"...the knowledge ECLAC has built up on the subject of care, agreement on the methodology to be used, and the constructive debates, all contributed to the design of a new policy".

Andrés Scagliola, National Director of Social Policy, Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) of Uruguay.

During the biennium, 10 countries adopted parameters suggested by ECLAC for measuring social expenditure. Five countries —Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay and Peru— adopted parameters for the Millennium Development Goals and analysis of social policy expenditure or expressed interest in ECLAC recommendations on social protection policies. Five countries have replicated winning projects from the Social innovation contest run by ECLAC with the support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, or are in the process of doing so.¹⁴ Reflecting the great impact of work carried out to disseminate the projects, it was announced in March 2011 that the Colombian Fénix project (a finalist in the ECLAC/ W.K. Kellogg Social innovation contest cycle 2005-2006) was to be replicated in Costa Rica with a budget of US\$ 1 million.

The Division has actively promoted debate on issues relating to social protection systems through a number of publications and seminars focusing on financing for social protection, food security, the changing structure of Latin American families, information and communication technologies for health and educational systems, and the demands and challenges that these issues create for public action. It produced a comparative analysis of family-related legislation in five countries of the region and on the effects of the global financial crisis on the security of health and pension benefits, with policy recommendations to tackle those effects.

¹⁴ Brazil implemented one of the winning projects as a regional health care programme in the Amazon; Colombia (Medellin) replicated the winning project from Argentina: "Abuelas cuentacuentos"; Costa Rica replicated the Colombian Fénix project; the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala announced (at a meeting in that country on 8 March 2011) that it was rolling out a pilot project to replicate the winning project from Belize "Copa agua fresca" in several poor communities; and Haiti's winning scheme Lèt Agogo was declared a national model.

In June 2011, the Division hosted three seminars to consider and discuss the challenges posed by the construction of integrated inclusive social protection in Latin America, including analysis of the role of protection systems within integrated systems of social information. In addition, the Division organized a seminar on Social protection in Chile from the Latin American perspective: challenges of inclusion and integration. Chile's system was analysed specifically because, despite its achievements, the country still faces a number of challenges that are directly linked to the persistence of inequality and extreme poverty. A seminar on inclusive social protection co-organized by ECLAC, the Ministry of Social Development (SEDESOL) of Mexico and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), was held to promote debate on inclusive social protection in Latin America and the Caribbean and exchange experiences on progress and challenges in the case of Mexico.

Throughout the biennium, the virtual Latin American and Caribbean Network of Social Institutions (RISALC) was strengthened as a powerful tool for knowledge transmission and for discussion of social policies. In the past three months, total registrations in the network rose to 2,150, i.e. an increase of 8.8%. This network, which comprises over 1,446 institutions from 33 countries,¹⁵ has served as a platform for knowledge-based social management. In addition, 37 strategic alliances or "virtual corridors" have been established to share, integrate and disseminate information on social development via the web. During 2010 and 2011, dissemination of the RISALC Electronic Bulletin continued (35 bulletins distributed to a total of 849 registered users in 29 countries worldwide), and two new online databases were created, one of social indicators and the other a video database of innovative social experiences developed mainly at the local level by civil society organizations.

The database of conditional transfer programmes—which provides detailed information on the various components of such programmes in the region's countries, as well as data on expenditure, coverage and the amounts involved in

"...in the name of the staff of the Department of Social Welfare, I thank ECLAC and OAS for their support and assistance to the Government of the Republic of Paraguay in the creation of an updated database on social programmes".

Letter from the Paraguayan Department of Social Welfare, Office of the President of the Republic of Paraguay.

the cash transfers— was created as part of a project on the sustainability of transfer programmes with co-responsibility, which is being implemented by ECLAC in conjunction with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The Inter-American Social Protection Network (RIPSO) of the Organization of American States (OAS) also collaborated with data verification work. ECLAC asserts that conditional transfer programmes are an important social policy tool for combating poverty. They are non-contributory mechanisms that seek to increase families' level of consumption by means of cash transfers, thus reducing poverty in the short term, as well as strengthening the human development of family members to break the intergenerational reproduction of poverty.

The Division organized the international seminar Prioritizing equality and redefining poverty is imperative for a new development model (Mexico, 17 February 2010), at which experts discussed proposals for measuring poverty apart from income levels, including through access to basic rights and the loss of freedoms. In addition,

Millennium Development Goals: Social protection

Five countries of the region adopted parameters for measuring the Millennium Development Goals and social policy expenditure or expressed interest in ECLAC recommendations of social protection policies. Instrumental for the successful implementation of this methodology were the programme's workshops and post-workshop on-line assistance, complemented with No. 65 of the Manuales series on social expenditure methodology, which was published in January 2010. The reference manual registered 11,366 downloads from the website of the Social Development Division between 1 January 2010 and 1 August 2011, which represents a monthly average of 598 downloads.

¹⁵ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

international and national experts examined proposals and methodologies for measuring poverty in the region from a multidimensional perspective during the international seminar Multidimensional poverty measurement in Latin America, held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, on 10-12 November 2010. Experts warned that over 50% of the rural population in Latin America and the Caribbean is poor and almost a third lives in extreme poverty. These population groups are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change on agriculture.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

Inter-agency work has been fundamental to the success of many activities developed under the subprogramme

and needs to be further encouraged and implemented. In order to strengthen the Governments' capacity in the social sector, it is necessary to develop a systemic view of the issues and thus engage a variety of stakeholders from different ministries. The need for homogenous, reliable and updated statistics in the region continues to be a challenge and a necessity. Inter-agency and interdivisional activities have proven to be successful and are consistent with the overall ECLAC proposal of comprehensive development with a rights based perspective and a comprehensive approach. Despite advances, the reduction of poverty, inequality and social exclusion remain mainstream tasks in the region's agenda and represent an immense challenge for the region. Standardized statistical information in the region is essential for facing this challenge and will continue to be a key activity for the subprogramme.



Sonia Montaño

*Chief of the Division
for Gender Affairs*

SUBPROGRAMME 5

MAINSTREAMING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

5

This biennium has seen a further strengthening of the Commission's work to promote gender mainstreaming, both in the region and within the organization. The subprogramme concentrated during the period on generating new knowledge to support the development and monitoring of public policies for gender equality in the region and to incorporate this knowledge into the capacity-building for national mechanisms for the advancement of women and national statistical institutes. It also continued to support the collection of data on the situation of women and men through the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, and to strengthen relations between producers and users of these gender indicators.

A landmark in the biennium was the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2010, which brought together around 1,000 people, mainly women, pertaining to 31 ECLAC member States, 16 agencies and funds of the United Nations, and 10 intergovernmental and governmental organizations. At the meeting, Governments adopted the Brasilia Consensus, which combines new commitments to attain greater economic autonomy and equality in the workplace, enhance the citizenship of women, broaden the participation of women in decision-making, address all forms of violence against women, and carry out training and activities for exchanging and disseminating experiences. Since its adoption the Brasilia Consensus has become the main agenda of all the forums where the ministers of women in Latin America participate.

The Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, established in response to a request made in the Quito Consensus, has been consolidated as an important strategic tool allowing easy access to systematized information through a web portal in four languages. In the period 2010–2011 the number of users of the Observatory almost quadrupled in comparison to 2008–2009, to reach over 209,000.

Fresh efforts have also been made to broaden technical assistance to countries through a series of virtual courses on gender statistics offered by ECLAC. More than 170 students from 19 countries in the region participated in the courses on gender indicators and time use. Most of the participants are officials from machineries for the advancement of women, national statistical institutes and other government entities.

GENDER EQUALITY IN THE REGION

According to the national reports received in preparation for the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the meetings of its Presiding Officers, countries of the region have put in place 21 programmes or public policies in response to the agreements adopted at the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Seventeen years after the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action and five years after the adoption of the Quito Consensus (2007), the Latin American and Caribbean region has made significant strides in women's economic and social rights, and in their key political role.

In terms of education, parity has been achieved and has been accompanied by an increase in the economic participation of women. However, this has not led to a corresponding increase in income or to equal employment conditions. Women's economic participation remains marked by inequality, discrimination and excessive hours of total work —paid and unpaid work— owing to the fact that this double burden tends to fall disproportionately on their shoulders.

Increased political participation by women has changed the region's democratic landscape, with 42% of Latin America today being governed by women. Yet glass ceilings persist even at senior levels, and participation at local levels remains at a mere 8%.

In terms of physical autonomy, i.e. women's freedom to make decisions regarding reproduction and the right to live a life free from violence, progress has been limited in part due to cultural resistance.

The processes of globalization and democratic consolidation have helped to promote equality in recent years; nonetheless equality objectives have often been subordinated to the objectives of economic growth. The recent financial and economic crisis, combined with the energy and food crises, have forced a rethinking of development and refocused attention on the role of the State in promoting social equality, as affirmed in the document *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails* (ECLAC 2010).

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

The main achievement has been the strengthening of the formulation of public policies and programmes oriented towards promoting gender equality and fulfilling international mandates through: generation of information in key areas such as measurement of women's unpaid work, participation of women in decision-making at all levels, and gender-based violence; strengthening of national capacities to produce gender statistics while improving relations between producers and users of statistics; the generation of innovative approaches to develop a gender-based approach to poverty reduction; and the continuous updating of the Gender Equality Observatory for Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which serves as a tool of technical support and training for government authorities.

At the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Brasilia, Brazil, 13-16 July 2010), which was attended by 31 member States of ECLAC, two Member States of the United Nations which are not member States of ECLAC, 16 funds and agencies of the United Nations system, and 10 intergovernmental and governmental organizations, ECLAC member countries adopted the Brasilia Consensus, which sets forth agreements aimed at attaining greater economic autonomy and equality in the workplace; enhancing women's citizenship; broadening women's participation in decision-making and the exercise of power; addressing all forms of violence against women; facilitating women's access to new technologies and promoting egalitarian, democratic and nondiscriminatory practices by the media; promoting the conditions for ensuring women's integral health and for fulfillment of their sexual and reproductive rights; carrying out training and activities for exchanging and disseminating experiences with a view to the formulation of public policies; and promoting international and regional cooperation for gender equality.

At the eleventh session of the Regional Conference the secretariat presented the document *What kind of State? What kind of Equality?*, which examines the progress of gender equality in the region with an emphasis on women's economic autonomy through an analysis of data collected by the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2011 alone, the conference document recorded 435,000 downloads.

The Gender Equality Observatory, which was created in response to a request made in the Quito Consensus, has become an important strategic tool allowing easy access to systematized information through a web portal in four languages. In the biennium 209,000 users accessed the Observatory, which was rated as particularly useful by the Governments participating in the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in 2010.

The role played by mechanisms for the advancement of women and their partnership with civil society have been crucial in achieving the aforementioned progress in gender equality in the region. However, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, who met three times during the biennium, raised concerns about the weakening of gender institutions in some countries, which delayed the fulfilment of international agreements. It was therefore decided to focus on the strengthening and sustainability of gender institutions.

The international seminar Policies on time, time for policies took place in the framework of the forty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, 28-30 December 2011). On this occasion, experts and government representatives assessed the information available on time use in the region and discussed implications and recommendations for care policies.

Three meetings organized during the biennium contributed to strengthening coordination with specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system on the advancement of women. The creation of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) represents an important step in consolidating efforts to empower women, and in raising the profile of gender equality issues on government agendas around the world.

In 2011, ECLAC signed a new inter-agency cooperation framework agreement with UN-Women and collaboration has been undertaken in a number of areas. An example of joint activity with UN-Women, together with the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) and the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES) of Mexico, was the twelfth International meeting on gender statistics: empowerment, economic autonomy and public policy

"...The tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean built on the efforts made by the ministers and senior authorities dealing with women's issues to re-politicize gender discussions and women's human rights, by adopting the Quito Consensus as the gender agenda for the region. The gender observatory administered by ECLAC has made a major contribution to this endeavour. The observatory data have made it easier to organize the information and to convey the situation of women using statistical data".

Carmen Andrade, Minister of the National Women's Service of Chile, New York, 1 March 2010.

(Aguascalientes, 5-7 October 2011), which was attended by 175 participants and official representatives of 16 countries. The event was part of the activities of the Working Group on Gender Statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

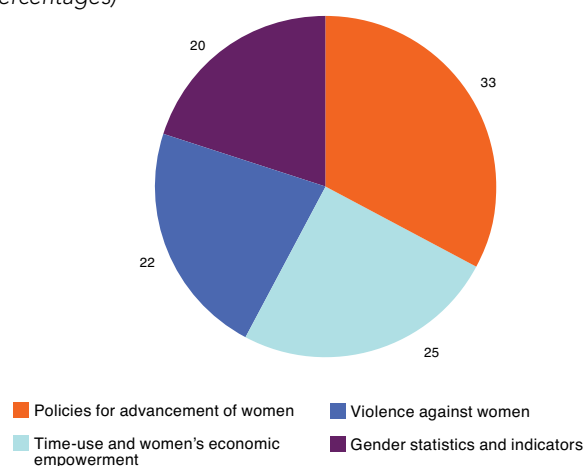
During this biennium the Division for Gender Affairs implemented projects aimed at eradicating violence against women, quantifying women's unpaid work and enhancing women's social protection. The interregional project Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities was coordinated by ECLAC and implemented in collaboration with the other regional commissions of the United Nations (Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)) and in coordination with the United Nations Statistics Division and UN-Women. The foremost result of the project has been strengthened interaction between users and producers of statistics and enhanced ownership of international initiatives to measure violence against women, including through three subregional consultations. During the project the National Statistical Office of Mexico became the first country in the world to pilot the survey module on violence against women, the results of which were disseminated globally. In addition, 16 countries (48.5%) in the region have reported information to the Secretary-General's database on violence against women. A memorandum of understanding was also signed with the Conference of Ministers of Justice of Ibero-American Countries.

As part of efforts to enhance women's economic empowerment, two projects were implemented in synergy: Unpaid labour and the social protection of women, as part of the Commission's cooperation programme with the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), and Improving quantification of women's unpaid work in support of poverty eradication policies, from the seventh tranche of the Development Account. Key results include the publication of a study on the impact of the financial crisis on women, the development of a conceptual framework and state-of-the-art in care policies in Latin America, national studies in Ecuador and Costa Rica, and a study analysing care for caregivers from a mental health perspective.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

Figure 5

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



The increased number of technical cooperation activities (provided by ECLAC to almost 61% of countries of the region) has demonstrated that member States wish not only to improve the collection of gender statistics but also to use the data gathered for policymaking. The countries' continued commitment to integrating indicators from the Gender Equality Observatory has been reflected in increased demand for technical assistance. Accordingly, in the past two years, at least 12 countries¹⁶ have added indicators proposed by ECLAC to their databases or

¹⁶ Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

E-learning

In 2011, the Division for Gender Affairs, together with the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) launched a series of e-learning courses in response to growing demand for technical assistance and a specific request made by the Governments in the Brasilia Consensus. Three courses took place —on gender indicators and statistics, time-use surveys, and measurement of violence (interregional project)— and received an unprecedented response from public authorities throughout the region. Courses on gender indicators and time-use surveys benefited more than 170 participants from 19 countries in the region. Beneficiaries rated the courses positively, with 80% acknowledging their usefulness for their job.

to official documents and 6 countries have adopted legislation either to establish new indicators or as a result of their use.¹⁷

With the technical support of ECLAC, countries in the region have made enormous strides in the collection of data to measure women's unpaid work. A number of countries have put in place policies recognizing unpaid work through reform of pension schemes and through cash transfer programmes. In the past 10 years, 18 surveys, survey modules or questionnaires on time use have been conducted in 12 countries of the region. The Classification of Time-Use Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean (CAUTAL), developed by Mexico, has made a significant contribution to strengthening and harmonizing surveys, statistics and indicators on time use. This effort was welcomed by the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas at its tenth meeting in 2011, when it invited countries to make use of this important new tool.

New efforts have been made to broaden technical assistance to countries through a series of virtual courses on gender statistics offered by ECLAC. More than 90 students participated in the first e-learning course on gender statistics and indicators, and 80 in the course on time-use surveys, most of them officials from machineries for the advancement of women, national statistical institutes and

¹⁷ Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

other government entities. The courses have strengthened national capacities to produce and use gender statistics and indicators and to implement time-use surveys, so as to improve their use in formulation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies to empower women.

In the area of monitoring gender violence, the virtual course Measurement of violence against women through statistical surveys took place from 3 October to 10 December 2011 as part of the interregional project Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities. This course was taken by 71 students, 44 of whom came from Latin America and the Caribbean.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

The impact of the global financial and economic crisis is likely to impede further progress towards gender equality. Many challenges are still ahead and efforts need to be enhanced to meet the particular needs of women. In light of these conditions, there is an increased awareness of the need to improve policies that are aimed at implementing structural changes in the sexual division of labour, to reinforce women's economic autonomy and

overcome gender inequality. Furthermore, there is growing evidence that women's contributions to the economy and social protection through the unpaid work they perform are crucial both for the socioeconomic development of countries and the development of gender equality policies. National strategies for gender equality must incorporate public policies for reconciling work and family life and for recognizing the economic value of unpaid work.

During this biennium a key lesson learned has been the need to generate an impact on macroeconomic policies, including employment policies, in order to secure economic autonomy. An emerging challenge is the need to identify and secure stable sources of financing for middle-income countries, as most Latin American and Caribbean countries are.

Within ECLAC a gender mainstreaming strategy has been designed to strengthen, coordinate and redirect efforts in this area with the aim of enhancing the results achieved through the work of the various divisions and offices. In this biennium advances have been made both in terms of incorporating a gender perspective in the strategic planning process as well as in substantive issues such as employment, statistics and ICT among others. The mainstreaming strategy, which is based on a gradual and participatory process, will be presented in 2012.



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SUBPROGRAMME 6

POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

6

This biennium has represented a peak season for most of the countries in terms of preparing and conducting their population and housing censuses. CELADE engaged in intensive technical support in order to enhance national census capacities. The countries assisted benefited from expertise under the subprogramme not only with direct individual technical advice, but also in the form of much needed workshops and reference publications on a variety of census topics, including living conditions, household equipment, environment, demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, as well as the training of enumerators, use of new technologies, data coherence and demographic analysis.

During the 2010-2011 biennium national statistical offices from Latin America and the Caribbean participated and contributed with presentations on their census-taking activities in formal and informal meetings organized by CELADE. The efforts of CELADEs to increase countries' capacity to monitor population trends and integrate demographic and development issues into social programming included technical support for nine countries which conducted their population and housing censuses; a wide range of workshops and regional courses on censuses, attended by representatives of 29 government agencies, academic bodies and non-governmental organizations; the course on ageing and social protection strategies, in which 27 different institutions (ministries, secretariats and universities among others) participated and produced documents using census data; and a number of courses on the system for retrieval of census data for small areas by microcomputer (REDATAM), in which 43 government agencies used census data to produce reports, applications and indicators on a wide range of thematic areas.

In its capacity as technical secretariat, CELADE prepared the meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development held in Santiago, in 2010. The substantive materials prepared dealt mainly with population and health matters in Latin America and the Caribbean. On the basis of these materials and subsequent discussions, member countries agreed upon the population and development priorities for the 2010-2012 period.

In response to a vast number of requests, in the biennium the subprogramme provided more than 2,400 person/days of technical assistance on a wide range of population issues. The geographical coverage of technical assistance provided by CELADE increased within and outside Latin America and the Caribbean; and focused on censuses, ethnicity, migration, ageing and REDATAM, among others.

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN THE REGION

Demographic change continues at a rapid pace across the Latin American and Caribbean region. As the demographic transition progresses, the population aged 60 and older will represent an increasing share of the region's total population. In turn, reductions in fertility and mortality are slowing growth of the population and quickly altering its age composition, generating new economic and social challenges. These changes are accompanied by shifts in the burden of disease and represent new demands for service provision in the areas of education, employment, and particularly pension and health care systems. Current migration patterns, together with persistent social inequality, underscore the association between population issues and human rights, and the need to reinforce social cohesion in the region.

The above-mentioned trends pose new challenges and trace new paths for demographic analysis in the region and for supporting Latin American and Caribbean countries in the design of national population programmes and policies. Indeed, one of the key challenges at this time is to collect accurate and timely demographic information to meet the needs of final users. In order to help the region to tackle these challenges, during the past two years CELADE continued providing specialized advisory and technical cooperation services, and organizing workshops and seminars to facilitate horizontal cooperation, networking and sharing of successful experiences among countries.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

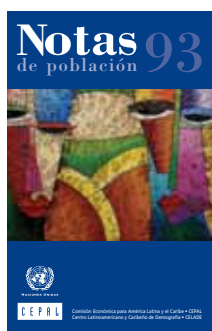
CELADE has continued to support Latin American and Caribbean member States in the improvement of technical capacity to monitor population trends and feed this knowledge into sociodemographic programming. The demographic databases maintained by CELADE served as reference material for countries' policymakers in the areas of planning, health, education, social security and social protection.

In the 2010-2011 biennium, long-term population estimations and projections disaggregated by sex and age, as well as structure and growth indicators for the period 1950-2100 for each country and the regional aggregated figures, were posted in the web-based database on demographic trends. The Database on Internal Migration in Latin America

and the Caribbean (MIALC) was updated with information from El Salvador, Panama and Peru; and microdata from Brazil, Ecuador and Mexico was scrutinized and prepared for tabulation. This database contains information from 23 censuses (1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010 rounds) and its structure allows the user to quickly obtain information on internal migration by country and census year, administrative level (major or minor) and type of migrant (lifetime or recent), as well as internal migration tables by census topic. In 2011, an executable and portable version of the Regional System of Indicators on Ageing (SISE) was developed and distributed to users widely in a CD format. This system contains indicators allowing for analyses on the population ageing process and the situation of older persons. Indicators can be disaggregated by sex, area of residence and age groups. It is also possible to process data online and display results as statistical tables, graphs and thematic maps. The database on spatial distribution and urbanization in Latin America and the Caribbean (DEPUALC) now features new data for Brazil, Mexico and Panama; city indicators relating to the Millennium Development Goals were revised for El Salvador, Nicaragua and Peru; and a subregional database called DEPUALC Caribbean is being developed. This database contains information on population size at the level of major administrative divisions for censuses conducted in the region between 1950 and 2005. It also offers urban/rural disaggregation, as well as growth rates, indicators on sociodemographic conditions, indicators on the Millennium Development Goals and thematic maps for cities with 1 million or more inhabitants.

REDATAM, a software developed by CELADE, continues to be consolidated as the main instrument for processing and disseminating census results within the region and beyond. One of the keys of the software's success as the choice for processing census and survey data, apart from its user-friendly and accessible interface, is data confidentiality. Micro information is protected by the internal database structure, which is one of the main priorities for data producers, especially national statistics offices. During this biennium, 14 regional and national workshops were conducted in Chile, Guatemala, Grenada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Japan, Fiji, Peru, Saint Lucia, Thailand, and Trinidad and Tobago, aimed at building capacities for the generation of databases and sociodemographic indicators; census data processing, use and analysis; and the development of web applications. Emphasis was afforded to the processing and analysis of information from population and housing censuses.

Notas de población



Notas de Población is published on a semi-annual basis. Its main objective is to disseminate research and analysis on population issues in Latin America and the Caribbean and other parts of the world. It features academic and policy-related articles on economic, social and biological phenomena

as well as demographic issues and trends. During the biennium issues Nos. 90, 91, 92 and 93 were published. The main topic of issue No. 90 was the measurement of economic activity by age, within the framework of the national transfers accounts project. This issue also contains a report of the meeting of experts held in October 2009, marking the end of the project's first phase, coupled with a selection of papers presented on that occasion. Issue No. 91 contains seven articles, touching on several sociodemographic topics of great interest, ranging from gender mainstreaming in the design of census questionnaires and procedures applied to determine census undercoverage to migration estimations in Argentina and projections for small populations. Issue No. 92 disseminates some of the work presented in the seminars and workshops on censuses, health and living conditions, dealing with definitions of housing unit and family, access and use of ICTs, measurement of child mortality and fertility through censuses, and the potential of censuses in the study of social protection. Finally, issue No. 93 presents selected papers from the conference of the Latin American Population Association, on topics such as demography of youth, unmarried maternity, divorce, human capital and wage differentials, internal migration, geographical mobility and housing deficit.

During this biennium, CELADE has been implementing the second phase of the IDRC-funded project on the national transfers accounts (NTA) in Latin America and the Caribbean, with additional support from the University of California at Berkeley and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). NTAs measure consumption and labour earnings by age as well as the flows of resources between ages and across generations which take place through families, financial markets and the government. NTAs reveal the age dimension of national economies. This approach is particularly useful today because the age structure of populations are changing

at an unprecedented rate —this is especially true in Latin America and the Caribbean which, together with Asia, is the most rapidly ageing region in the world. A key component of the second phase of the project has been to expand the focus of NTAs to measure the generational economy by socioeconomic group. The Latin American and Caribbean region is the most unequal in the world. These new measures are intended to improve knowledge on inequality in the region and why it has been so persistent. The number of countries from the region participating in the project rose from five in 2010 to nine in 2011.

Downloads of CELADE publications, whose contents provide relevant policy analysis and recommendations for action, have increased to total 4,226,990 in the past biennium, reflecting their importance in the region and the interest they arouse. The recently revamped *Demographic Observatory*¹⁸ has registered 370,826 downloads for its 10 issues. The journal *Notas de Población*, featuring peer-reviewed articles, has registered 987,267 downloads. Publications on indigenous people's issues recorded a total of 2,242,612 downloads, while those on migration issues totalled 307,171 downloads and publications on ageing issues, 319,114.

Prominent documents produced during the biennium include *Migración internacional en América Latina y el Caribe. Nuevas tendencias, nuevos focos*, which aims to contribute to building skills and capacities of those responsible for designing policies and programmes related to international migration and integrating the subject into the national development strategies; and *Mortalidad en la niñez. Una base de datos de América Latina desde 1960*, a joint ECLAC-UNICEF publication, which updates a series of comparative studies on child mortality trends within Latin American countries. The latter publication aims to provide a substantive and methodological discussion on estimations by CELADE and by the Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (IGME), and to examine social factors associated with mortality gaps.

¹⁸ The Demographic Observatory provides information regarding population estimates and projections at the national and urban/rural levels for economic active population, fertility, mortality, international migration and population distribution, among others, for the Latin American and Caribbean countries. It contains an analytical chapter which introduces and explains the respective topics.

The use of a human-rights-based approach on the analysis and interpretation of age-related issues has marked a paradigm shift with regard to a stage of life that has traditionally been associated with a wide range of unmet needs. To this regard, the Division prepared the document *Ageing and the protection of human rights: current situation and outlook* in its Spanish and English versions, which is being widely utilized in the understanding and analysis of the rights of older persons in the region and beyond. The document served as a reference for the work of the sessions of the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group for the protection of the rights of older persons and the Working Group on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons of the Organization of American States.

Finally, in terms of publications, and in the framework of a technical cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Health of Chile, CELADE prepared the study *Atlas sociodemográfico de la población y pueblos indígenas. Región Metropolitana e Isla de Pascua, Chile*. The paper is a response to the basic need for conventional sociodemographic and health indicators for evaluating, implementing and monitoring public policies aimed at increasing social justice and well-being for indigenous peoples.

Summarizing, the division's publication list includes four issues of *Notas de población*, nine documents dealing with indigenous and afro-descendent issues, 16 issues of the *Población y desarrollo series*, nine issues of the *Manuales series*, 13 publications on ageing and development, two issues of *REDATAM Informa* and two chapters for the flagship publication *Social Panorama of Latin America*, as well as contributions to four issues of the *Population and Development Review*.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

ECLAC has contributed to strengthening the capacity of 20 countries of the region to monitor population trends for use in social programming, as a result of which nine countries¹⁹ applied ECLAC methodological recommendations on data collection and compilation, the design of population censuses, data analysis to support the formulation of

¹⁹ Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama, Paraguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Training in demographic analysis and population issues

Government officials and academics in the region have found that the pool of qualified human resources in the field of demography and population affairs is still weak and limited in several countries, and sometimes non-existent at the subnational levels. This biennium, CELADE tackled this demand by providing a regional intensive course on demographic analysis with census applications. This course helped to build knowledge on methods and demographic analysis techniques for the study and diagnostics of population dynamics; the production of demographic inputs for economic and social policy management, as well as the design, evaluation and follow-up of social projects. The emphasis was on demographic analysis and its application to census data use. The course was attended by 18 participants, who rated its overall practical utility with an average of 9.2 on a scale of 1 to 10. In addition, capacity-building courses and workshops on demographic and population issues have been conducted under the subprogramme in partnership with national universities, government agencies and regional organizations. These activities focused on international migration, ageing and development, housing deficit, spatial demographic analysis, indigenous peoples and use of REDATAM.

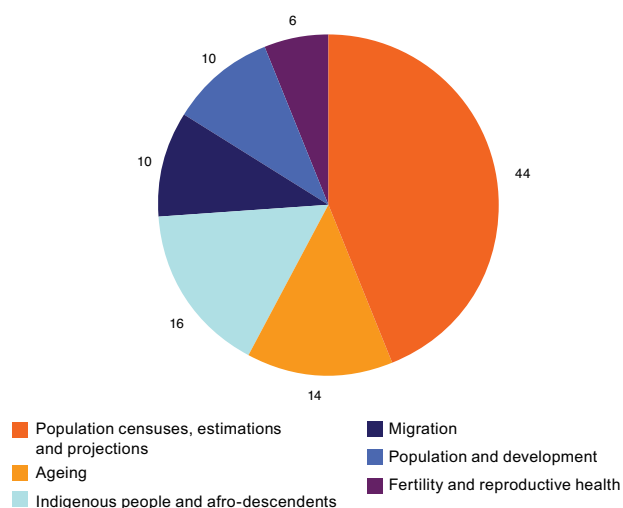
social policies, and the development of indicator systems, among others. ECLAC also provided technical assistance to 13 countries²⁰ on the preparation, conduct and evaluation of censuses and the production of population estimations and forecasts. In addition, the Commission worked with 20 countries to enhance capacities to monitor progress towards the achievement of international commitments, such as those assumed as a result of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the relevant Millennium Development Goals²¹ (64 new actions were taken by Latin American and Caribbean countries to monitor and implement the goals and recommendations of international

²⁰ Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Costa Rica, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

²¹ These workshops supported technical staff from the region to improve data collection, incorporate new methodologies for the monitoring of ICPD goals and to prepare, manage and evaluate the 2010 round of population censuses more effectively.

Figure 6

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



recommendations and agreements related to population and development). As a result of the Commission's work on indigenous populations and ethnic minorities, 14 countries in the region²² are including questions on ethnic identification in the 2010 census round. Furthermore, 17 countries²³ improved their capacity to analyse and explore population profiles for use in social programming and policymaking through the strengthening of their statistical systems. Finally, almost 200 technical staff from the region and beyond enhanced their capacities for data analysis, processing and dissemination using REDATAM.

In 2010-2011, CELADE continued providing cooperation services to member States both in the Commission's headquarters and in the countries themselves. In particular, Argentina, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) benefited from advisory missions on the creation of databases and applications in REDATAM. Mexico requested input from CELADE on reconciliation of data sources. Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Panama and Peru received advice on population projections and estimations and support in the use of software for

Technical assistance on ageing issues

CELADE has successfully coached and assisted the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the application of the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. The strong subject matter expertise and close relations with member countries developed in the process led the countries to request, at the meeting of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, that CELADE should continue providing them with technical support regarding the rights of older persons. Also under the subprogramme, countries have requested that a strategic paper be prepared on ageing and assistance provided for the meetings of the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Ageing. Furthermore, in its role of technical secretariat of the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC assisted under the subprogramme with the conduct of a number of seminars and drafted reference documents such as the study on public institutions and ageing, teaching material and the protection of human rights of the elderly, among other topics.

population projections (PRODEX). The Dominican Republic benefited from the division's expertise in order to update and relaunch the country's indicators system for the Millennium Development Goals, using REDATAM as its platform. CELADE has also conducted activities in other regions: including the Needs Assessment Conference for Census Analysis in Asia, in partnership with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and South-South cooperation activities jointly with UNFPA and the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP).

Within the context of the Brasilia Declaration and in preparation for the Third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean, three successful subregional seminars were organized in partnership with the Governments of Argentina, El Salvador and Nicaragua, with technical support from CELADE. A regional meeting was held in Chile for the 22 ECLAC member States. Furthermore, OAS member States requested the input of CELADE for a special meeting to consider the rights of older persons. Finally, the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) created the Permanent

²² Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panamá, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

²³ From Latin America: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); from the Caribbean: Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago; from Asia-Pacific: Indonesia and Vanuatu.

Demographic Observatory



The No. 10 edition of the *Demographic Observatory* offers a set of tabulated

population data by recent and absolute migratory status for both major and minor administrative divisions. The data include 23 Latin American and Caribbean countries for the census periods circa 1990 and 2000.

The methodological notes for this edition of the *Demographic Observatory* give a short history and brief description of the Database on Internal Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean (MIALC) and include a compilation of the definitions relating to the questions on usual place of residence, birthplace and place of residence five years previously.

The Database on Internal Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean (MIALC), available online at http://www.eclac.cl/migracion/migracion_interna/, includes a series of derived matrixes, migratory flow matrixes and indicators derived from the basic matrixes.

commission on the rights of older persons with a view to facilitating exchange of experiences and advancing fulfilment of the rights of older persons.

The workshop The 2010 census and living conditions was held at ECLAC headquarters on 7-9 June 2010, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of national statistical offices for formulating the census questionnaire for the 2010 round. Four more workshops were organized in the census framework: (i) Sharing experiences on classifications and nomenclatures; (ii) Experiences in training of census supervisors and enumerators; (iii) Analysis of census data coherence, quality and coverage; and (iv) Potential uses and applications of census data. For each topic discussed during the seminars, CELADE prepared background documents for discussion, presentations or both. In addition, a report drafted for each seminar will serve as reference material. All these workshops helped to generate institutional capacity for carrying out studies based on census information.

Within the framework of the Development Account, CELADE coordinated the project Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration, with a

view to maximizing development benefits and minimizing negative impacts. This project is executed jointly with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and the other regional commissions. During the biennium, several interregional activities were organized, such as the seminar-workshop on strengthening national capacities, at which results from a comparative research study looking at migratory patterns in selected countries were presented, as well as an assessment of the normative frameworks and migration policies in place. Another workshop organized by ECLAC, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, was held in 2011 and attended by government delegates, experts on a wide range of migration topics, and representatives of civil society from the three regions.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

Demographic change and the accompanying transformations in the age structure in a context of persistent inequality require continuous work to inform the countries of the region of the nature and consequences of these changes. The provision of accurate population data and the support in incorporating demographic analysis in policy development are instrumental if gaps are to be reduced.

The region is in need for solid, in-depth and flexible programmes of study that help understand the profound demographic changes it is going through. Governments, United Nations agencies and sponsors need to commit more resources, both financial and human, to this end. A main lesson learned, in terms of tackling this training need, is the usefulness of teaching materials that support distance learning for introductory courses. This strategy, tested during the introductory modules of the course on ageing and social protection strategies in Latin America, received outstanding feedback from stakeholders, and was evaluated as a viable option through ICT-use and as a tool with large potential impact.

During the next biennium CELADE will cover the following four essential substantive areas relating to the current stage in the region's progress in the field of population and development: (i) analysis of demographic trends, including studies on maternal mortality, child mortality differentials

and a demographic analysis course; (ii) generation of data, such as the conduct of censuses and surveys, and development of procedures, computer programs and information systems for improving the use of census data, vital statistics and surveys, including REDATAM, DEPUALC, MIALC and SISE; (iii) inclusion of sociodemographic inputs in social programming at the national and local levels for decision-making in the design and implementation of public policies, including intergenerational transfers and gender, and territory and sustainable development, and (iv) regional cooperation in the area of population and development through South-South cooperation. Emphasis will be placed

on the following areas: ageing and the rights of older adults, indigenous and Afro-descendent persons, migration and population mobility, the socioeconomic consequences of population dynamics, and training in population and development. The indicators of achievement will relate to use by Latin American and Caribbean government institutions of demographic knowledge and policy analysis publications generated by CELADE, as well as countries' actions for monitoring and implementing the Plan of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Madrid Plan of Action and relevant Millennium Development Goals.



SUBPROGRAMME 7

PLANNING OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Jorge Máttar

Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)

In response to demands from countries in the region, during the biennium 2010-2011, activities were conducted under the subprogramme in the areas of economic and social planning at the national, local and sector levels, in support of processes of State and government reform and modernization of public policymaking. In this framework, the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) also provided policy advice and proposals in development strategies and public-sector economics, to foster improved performance of public policies, programmes and projects, and to strengthen and capitalize knowledge networks in these substantive areas. ILPES has also promoted and supported the setting-up of new instruments for budgetary policymaking and evaluation, and disseminated sound, results-based management practices for incorporation into the public-policy cycle.

In order to consolidate its position as the region's principal intergovernmental training, advisory and research centre in planning and public management, ILPES has undertaken significant new initiatives such as, first, the organization and implementation of new international courses on: (i) planning, government and development; (ii) electronic government; and (iii) Millennium Development Goals at the municipal level (online). The second area of new initiative has been strategic advisory services provided to the Governments of El Salvador, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Paraguay in areas related to development planning, prospective analysis and institutional strengthening. And, third, ILPES has expanded its training services to a wider audience within and outside the region through e-learning courses.

During the biennium, 21 international courses, 36 national courses and 44 workshops were organized and implemented under the subprogramme, totalling more than 5,000 hours of training and 4,587 trained professionals. ILPES also organized 13 e-learning courses with 1,197 participants. Evaluation surveys of the courses show a high percentage (92%) of participant satisfaction. Technical cooperation was provided to 12 countries in the region²⁴ in the areas of planning, results-based management, fiscal policy, regional and local development strategies and policies, and e-government. In the field of research and analysis, 10 documents were published and widely disseminated throughout the region, on diverse topics such as public management, budgeting, project and programme evaluation, local and regional development and e-government issues.

²⁴ Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

PLANNING OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN THE REGION

The development agenda of Latin American and Caribbean countries continues to give priority to State modernization and to greater institutionalization of economic and social planning, budgetary and public investment policies, and to subnational development policies aimed at inclusive development, as underscored in *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails* (ECLAC, 2010). Development requires long-term approaches and the creation of institutions for implementation, monitoring and technical backstopping. Public planning plays an important role in performing the basic functions of forward planning, institutional, sectoral and regional coordination, generation of information and evaluation. The formulation of this forward-looking approach to national, regional and sectoral development strategies calls for greater analysis of the institutions and the various actors that participate in this process. Accordingly, the mainstreaming of these themes was at the core of the ILPES programme of work during the 2010-2011 biennium.

The Division invited the regional community to a collective discussion regarding the challenges that Latin American and Caribbean countries face in designing and implementing effective inclusive development strategies. The aim of the discussion was to contribute to both national and subnational efforts to improve the quality of public policies and strengthen institutional capabilities, in areas such as State modernization, economic and social planning, budgetary and public investment policies and local development policies.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis, training and dissemination

The Division organized 21 international and 36 national courses, as well as 44 workshops, totalling 5,640 teaching/classroom hours on topics related to local economic development, territorial competitiveness and fiscal decentralization; strategic planning and evaluation of public projects and programmes; public finances and budgetary policies; and planning and public management. ILPES training activities were conducted with great success and achieved the Institute's objectives of strengthening participants' skills in the design, analysis and evaluation of public policies. Most importantly, training contributed to

developing competencies (knowledge, skills, aptitudes) and achieved a geographical coverage of 56% of the member States, i.e. 22 countries in the region. Surveys of the courses show a high satisfaction level, since over 90% of respondents found them "useful" or "very useful" for their work. In addition, 4,587 participants attended the seminars and meetings organized by the Division, which illustrates the contribution that the subprogramme has made to increasing coordination and the exchange of experiences in the region.

ILPES publications on planning and budgeting, whose contents provide relevant policy analysis and recommendations for action, have registered over 1.3 million downloads. Two major publications were released during the biennium: *Panorama del desarrollo territorial en América Latina y el Caribe* (2010) and *Espacios iberoamericanos: Hacia una nueva arquitectura del Estado para el desarrollo* (2011); the latter was presented at the XXI Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government in Asunción, Paraguay.

During the biennium, more than 13 e-learning courses were successfully carried out with a total of 1,197 registered participants on topics related to local and regional development, strategic management and logical framework for project design and management. In addition, new courses on "municipalization" of the Millennium Development Goals and local competitiveness were implemented. Interdivisional collaboration between ILPES and the Division for Gender Affairs led to the development and implementation of three full courses on statistics and gender indicators; measurement of violence against women through statistical surveys; and time-use surveys.

ILPES completed the implementation of its integrated management system for training (SIGCA), the new portal for registering and monitoring its courses. SIGCA seeks to establish a link between the Institute, government organizations, educational institutions and stakeholders in their activities, creating intercom channels for exchanging experiences and promoting active feedback among network members in their various fields of work. During the biennium 5,408 people registered in the system, 636 in the first year of its deployment.

During this period ILPES provided support for reforms of budgeting and planning processes in Latin American countries, particularly with respect to the strengthening

of subnational governments. Within the framework of the reform process on the fiscal system and in line with recommendations provided by ECLAC, five countries are designing new quantitative and qualitative indicators systems at different administrative and governmental levels (Argentina, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Peru).

The XXII and XXIII versions of the Regional seminar on fiscal policy, organized by ILPES and co-sponsored by IMF, the World Bank, OECD and IDB, with the support of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), were held in Santiago in January 2010 and 2011, respectively. The main topics of the 2010 course were fiscal policy responses and options for coping with the financial crisis, whereas the 2011 discussions focused on the impacts of expenditure and tax systems on income distribution in the region. Around 150 participants (experts, scholars, government officials and multilateral institutions) from 20 countries attended each of the seminars.

Two meetings of experts on planning public policies and regional and local development in the countries of the region were organized. The first was the second International seminar on regional development, held in Santiago on 19-21 October 2010. The main topics discussed were territorial development trends in Latin America and the Caribbean and policies implemented at the national and subnational levels to foster territorial development and reduce disparities among subregions. The second, first regional meeting of the National Public Investment Systems Network, was organized by the Government of the Dominican Republic with the collaboration of ILPES and the World Bank in Santo Domingo, on 13-14 April 2011 and its agenda revolved around the development of national systems of public investment appraisal.

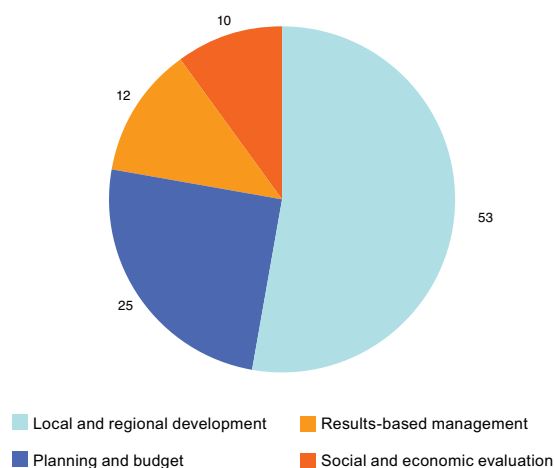
TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

As the Governments of the region seek to build their in-house capabilities, they are generating a growing demand for training and other technical cooperation services in specific areas of competence covered by the subprogramme. This is reflected in the large number of issues and jurisdictions to be addressed, in line with evolving demands from national and local governments in countries of the region.

Figure 7

Technical assistance missions

(Percentages)



The Institute has strengthened the capacities of the region's countries in the area of local development through training and technical cooperation services, resulting in eight countries²⁵ in the region adopting policies or implementing activities in line with ECLAC recommendations on local development. ILPES has also provided technical cooperation services on planning and budgeting matters, resulting in 10 countries²⁶ of the region adopting new policies and measures in line with ECLAC guidelines.

Technical cooperation with the Dominican Republic

ILPES provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Economics, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic on matters of planning and public investment, and in the development of the annual programme and the pluri-annual government plan, which have been institutionalized as fundamental tools for public management in the country. The Institute aided the Ministry in the implementation of its Integrated course on development planning (CIPLAN), which is aimed at public officials responsible for strategic formulation, implementation and monitoring of plans and programmes for modernizing the public administration. ILPES provided advice to the Government in the process of creating the national institutions to make long-term, State development policies feasible, including the National Development Strategy 2010-2030.

²⁵ Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru.

²⁶ Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

Technical cooperation with IICA

Within the framework of a technical cooperation agreement with the Ministry of National Integration of Brazil and with financing from the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), five courses on regional and local strategic development management were conducted at various locations in Brazil in 2010-2011. The purpose was to strengthen the competencies of staff of decentralized entities, to promote and implement endogenous development processes, and to improve the efficiency of government at the local level. More than 220 government officials were trained in the areas of local and regional planning. This programme has had a great impact: 26 of 28 regional development councils in Rio Grande do Sul have used the methodology proposed by ILPES in preparing their regional development strategies.

ILPES provided specific technical assistance to the governments of the Mexican states of Zacatecas, Sinaloa, Guerrero, Federal District, Quintana Roo and Jalisco on public management and strategic planning indicators. Technical assistance on results based budgeting and evaluation was also provided to Mexico's National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy (CONEVAL), and Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit. Evaluation was provided for 411 programmes corresponding to 24 budgeting sectors and, as a direct result, recommendations were developed for all the programmes evaluated.

Technical assistance was provided to the Government of El Salvador to improve the internal logic and design of the priority programmes of the country's social protection system. This review included evaluation of the objectives of each programme, causal relationships between them, indicators, means of verification and assumptions or risks, as key elements that may influence the success or failure of the respective schemes. Technical assistance was also provided through the training workshop on development of a logical framework for priority programs: five-year plan 2010-2014 - Universal social protection system. ILPES is also providing advice to the Technical Secretariat of the Presidency on reinstating the planning national system 20 years after planning policies were abandoned.

Upon request by the Ministry of Finance of Costa Rica, more than 100 government officials were trained in results-based budgeting and indicators. The knowledge

"We believe that the technical assistance provided by ILPES has been very beneficial to El Salvador in the various areas of planning and in crafting the five-year development plan. We would like to continue working on the planning model for developing and updating the five-year plan."

Alexander Ernesto Segovia, Technical Secretary of the Presidency of El Salvador.

transferred was applied to the 2011 budgeting processes. Through technical assistance provided to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy of Costa Rica, 200 public officials were trained in project preparation and evaluation, and 30 project profiles were developed. As part of its efforts to strengthen planning and public management capacities through linkages with academic institutions and governments, ILPES also collaborated with the Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy and the National University of Costa Rica in developing a Master's degree programme in planning and public investment, which started in 2012.

In the framework of the project on Municipalization of MDGs, ILPES conducted activities to raise awareness in municipalities of the importance of the Goals and mainstream them into local development planning exercises, by first assessing the degree of achievement of the Millennium targets in local communities. ILPES activities in this area fostered exchange of experiences and feedback among countries and within territories in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay. The project strengthened the competencies of more than 1,000 direct beneficiaries; eight workshops were conducted in six countries (Peru, Uruguay, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Mexico, two in Chile and two in Guatemala), with a total of 290 officials trained. Five versions of the e-learning course on localizing the MDGs were delivered through the MOODLE platform²⁷, totalling 711 trainees.

In the framework of the LAC MIC++ Governance and Public Management Partnership Program, a joint ECLAC-World Bank project, ILPES released the document *Panorama de la gestión pública en América Latina* with an associated database: the Public Sector Indicators System for Latin America and the Caribbean (SISPALC). The outputs of this

²⁷ Module Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment: Open Source Course Management System.

project are intended to contribute to the discussion of the State's role in economies and societies, and the construction of shared visions of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. As well as providing descriptive statistics and indicators (and their respective metadata), the database is intended to be a tool for support networks of specialists in the region: Latin American and Caribbean Network of Development Planning (REDEPLAN), national investment systems (RedSNIP), and the public management network.

The project aimed to promote improvements in public sector performance in Latin America and the Caribbean by: collecting and disseminating comparative indicators, supporting just-in-time peer-to-peer (P2P) technical assistance between Latin American and Caribbean Governments and counterpart agencies in OECD and other countries, and supporting regional networks of practitioners in selected public sector management areas.

"Much of the credit for the success to date of LAC MIC++ initiatives is due to the strong performance of the Secretariat. ILPES also was a full partner to the Bank and participants in much of the substance of LACMIC++ effort".

Ronald Myers assessment on the LAC MIC++ Project, 7 March 2012.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

National planning and development strategies are critical to economic and social development. Strategies commonly set out a trajectory for achieving the proposed goals, and

identify the policies, institutions, investments and other actions necessary to achieve them, together with costing and schedules for implementation. With the support of ILPES, the region's Governments have made significant strides in incorporating mechanisms to support increased efficiency in public management for development, and improved effectiveness of public programmes.

However, significant challenges remain: public programme implementation lacks effective coordination and participatory mechanisms; accountability measures are still weak, and public management capabilities greatly vary across and within countries. The meeting of the Regional Planning Council (ILPES governing body), to be held in November 2012, will be the occasion to review the challenges and agree with member countries on emerging priorities and strategic tasks to be undertaken by the Institute in the biennium and beyond.

Challenges include providing comprehensive training (on site and e-learning) and technical cooperation services to governments and other stakeholders (both at national and subnational levels), applied research, and the support and development of knowledge networks, particularly those relating to public sector performance in the region. ILPES is continuously improving its pedagogical standards and for the 2012-2013 biennium will deepen the three competency-based approaches to learning (structured knowledge for adults; peer-to-peer; and e-learning and tele-training systems,) and will continue enhancing the pedagogical, teaching and learning facilitating skills of its staff. Technological and pedagogical innovations will also be introduced to improve the quality of training and student access to instruction materials and information online.



SUBPROGRAMME 8

ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Joseluis Samaniego

*Chief of the Sustainable Development
and Human Settlements Division*

During the 2010-2011 biennium, the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division continued to work on the interrelationships of economic growth, environmental protection, urban development and social equity; as well as consolidating an area of work on the economics of climate change.

The subprogramme contemplates two basic areas for strengthening the capacities of the countries of the region. The first focuses on evaluating the advances, gaps and strategic opportunities for sustainable development in the region, the integration of sustainability criteria in public policies and institution-building for environmental management and also includes issues such as urban development, land use and metropolitan areas. The second area of work concerns climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation, including disaster and risk assessment and management.

Technical cooperation and studies conducted by the Division have strengthened the capacity of countries in the region to assess progress towards sustainable development through the generation of empirical data and analysis and the use of sustainability indicators to objectively measure the extent and costs associated with development strategies at the regional, national and subnational levels. Additional support to the countries have been delivered through by analysing the economic, social and environmental consequences of climate change and potential public policies necessary in order to cope with this phenomenon.

Substantial efforts have been devoted to capacity-building under the subprogramme, through courses, workshops and seminars. Officials from all countries of the region have benefited from numerous courses on urban projects, urban responses to climate change, impacts of sea level rise in coastal zones, the clean development mechanism, adaptation to climate change, projects on REDD+ (which goes beyond REDD —Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation— to include the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks), social impacts of climate change, green tax reforms, and risk management.

In addition to technical support and capacity-building, the subprogramme has contributed to the global and regional discussions on sustainable development and climate change through several publications presented during the biennium. Intergovernmental meetings, such as the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held in September 2011, complete the core activities of the Division.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE REGION

In the biennium, at least previous to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), no notable change had occurred in the region in the development model to support simultaneous advances in the social, economic and environmental dimensions. Thus, despite some achievements, the region has not managed to reduce inequalities in any significant way, to eradicate poverty or to differentiate environmental pressures from economic growth. Many people still live in poverty without access to basic utilities—including those defined as human rights, such as access to environmental health, water and sanitation, and housing—with serious implications for the security of the region's inhabitants.

The regional trend towards a rise in urbanization rates has continued. Marked inequalities observed in urban areas in terms of access to, and the quality of, basic services such as water supply, sanitation, housing, health, electricity and waste collection and disposal are magnified in large metropolitan areas. However, better policy integration, thanks to more mature economic analysis, aided by sound environmental policies and efforts to make the transition to lower-carbon economies, can lead to more relevant and more promising policy options.

Climate change remains a key issue on the international environmental agenda, and it is predicted to cause substantial modifications in development and lifestyles in the region. Indeed, responses to climate change still have an unexplored potential for integrating environmental, sectoral and economic policies, especially with policies in the crucial areas of adaptation and emissions reductions in metropolitan and intermediate cities in the region, as well as in land use change and deforestation. Clear synergies exist between strategies for adaptation to climate change and those designed to protect the region's most valuable assets: its natural resources and biodiversity.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

During 2010-2011, all the activities carried out by the Division related to sustainable development and climate change enhanced the development of new institutional

capacities in the Governments of the region, at the national, regional and local levels.

Through numerous publications, seminars, workshops and courses, the Division provided support to countries on sustainable development and climate change issues. More than 500 participants, from all the countries of the region, have been trained in sustainable development and climate change issues. Participants in those training courses scored their usefulness and quality between 7.5 and 9.2 on a scale from 0-10.

One of the main events on the long list of seminars and workshops organized by the Division on sustainable development and climate change matters was the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, in September 2011, which representatives of 34 member States and nearly 100 civil society members attended. ECLAC convened this meeting in fulfilment of the mandate handed down to the regional commissions of the United Nations to lend assistance to the countries of their respective regions for the achievement of sustainable development, including through the organization of regional implementation meetings. The meeting resulted in a set of conclusions for the region, which served as input in the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in June 2012.

In addition, under the leadership of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, the Division disseminated its activities through participation in seven side events during the sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 16) in Cancun in December 2010.

As part of the core activities of the subprogramme, ECLAC organizes the regional implementation meetings of the Commission of Sustainable Development (CSD) and participates—as part of the Inter-agency Technical Committee—in the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, the General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities of Housing and Urban Development Sector of Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) and the preparatory and intersessional meetings for Rio+20.

As part of the ECLAC contribution to support sustainable development conferences, the Division presented a preliminary assessment on sustainable development in the region at the regional preparatory meeting for Rio+20 (2011); published *Millennium Development Goals: Advances in Environmentally Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (2010), and contributed to the Issue Management Group on a Green Economy publication *Working Towards a Balanced and Inclusive Green Economy: A United Nations System-wide Perspective*, which was completed in December 2011.

The Division also reported its findings on the topics of the biennial cycle to the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in the document *Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: Trends, Progress, and Challenges in Sustainable Consumption and Production, Mining, Transport, Chemicals and Waste Management*, which was completed in April 2010.

In follow-up to the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and in an effort to expand on emerging issues, especially those of major importance to the region, the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, together with the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division, coordinated with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) to prepare the Senior Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Development of Lithium Resources in Latin America: Emerging Issues and Opportunities, which was held in Santiago in November 2010. The discussions included input and participation from the three main countries of the region in which lithium is an increasingly important natural resource: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Chile.

On the issue of urban sustainability, during the last biennium, the Division organized several seminars and workshops aimed at increasing the capacity of countries and cities to develop strategies and actions regarding adaptation and climate change at the city level. The socioeconomic and environmental trends of urban development in Latin America and the Caribbean were analysed to propose eco-efficient and sustainable urban development policies and planning instruments. The Division developed a paper on metropolitan development in the region that compares the six largest cities in Latin America.

During the XIX General Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities of Housing and Urban Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI), held in Argentina on September 2010, it was emphasized that responses are urgently needed for poverty and precarious urban and rural habitats, social housing programmes and urban development and climate change. A document on social expenditures in housing and urban development for selected countries in Latin America and the Caribbean was presented. In addition, several countries presented reports on the policies and instruments regarding social housing and urban development, based on ECLAC methodology for measuring housing deficits.

ECLAC is a member of a global programme engaged in researching public policy decisions and choices related to mitigation and specifically adaptation in urban areas. Throughout 2010-2011, the Division developed three courses in the framework of the memorandum of agreement with the city of Milan and United Nations Centre of Regional Development (UNCRD). The objective has been to design projects and programmes on human security, energy efficiency and climate change. Local government leaders from all regions of Chile, as well as from three of Colombia's largest metropolitan areas, participated in the courses, which lasted one year and culminated in a diploma awarded by Valparaíso Catholic University.

The Division also organized an international course on planning and projects for urban and regional development and risk management with the Office of the Under-Secretary for Regional and Administrative Development (SUBDERE) of Chile, in Santiago, in 2010. Participants stated that they acquired new knowledge that would allow cities to develop strategies and measures. In addition, ECLAC organized the International conference on risk, habitat and megacities with the Helmholtz Association of Germany, and a meeting on Risk habitat megacities in Santiago, in March 2010, at which experts examined the dynamics of growth of human settlements in relation to urban and rural land markets.

During the 2010-2011 the Division consolidated its activities on the economics of climate change. The document *Economics of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean. Summary 2010* was presented at various side events at COP 16. The study details the main economic effects of global warming in different potential scenarios

Seminars, workshops and publications were disseminated through the subprogramme's website, whose views and downloads increased from 3.2 million to over 10 million during the biennium.

and suggests options for action to avoid greater damage to the region. More recent findings were presented at COP 17 in Durban. Other studies developed by the Division on the economics of climate change were presented by the Governments of Chile and Uruguay. In collaboration with ECLAC, the ministers of the environment of Argentina and Guatemala also reported their advances in analysis and policies on climate change.

The Division also organized, in conjunction with ILPES, the third session of the twenty-second Regional seminar on fiscal policy, held at ECLAC in January 2010, and the International seminar on planning and sustainable management of natural and sustainable resources, held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in August 2010.

In addition, the Division prepared the documents *Climate Change: A Regional Perspective*, presented at the Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean, in Mexico, in February 2010; *La economía del cambio climático en el Uruguay*; and *Vital Climate Change Graphics for Latin America and the Caribbean*. Together with *Economics of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean. Summary 2010*, these form the four key publications on climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Finally, the Division supported the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) with scientific research, organized annual events on carbon footprint, and developed an in-depth line of research with the support of the Government of Spain on sea level rise and coastal zones. The first publication of the collection in relation to this last area of work, *Efectos del cambio climático en la costa de América Latina y el Caribe: dinámicas, tendencias y variabilidad climático*, was delivered in December 2011, and registered over 85,000 downloads during its first month after publication.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

Technical cooperation activities carried out by the Division in 2010-2011 strengthened the capacities of the countries in the region in the areas of climate change,

Economics of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean. Summary 2010



Climate change, which manifests in rising average temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns, rising sea levels, reduction of ice packs, glacier melt and alterations in the pattern of extreme events, is one of the major challenges facing humankind. The challenge of adapting to new climate conditions by mitigating the most negative effects while simultaneously participating in an international mitigation strategy, entails economic costs and resources of such a magnitude that climate change will heavily condition the region's economic development options and characteristics over this century. This document presents a summary of the aggregate economic analysis of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean. It was carried out on the basis of national and sectoral studies of climate change economics in the region. It concludes that a sustainable, adaptive, low-carbon, socially inclusive development strategy must be designed and implemented. This strategy must be based on awareness that economic growth which does not take into account climate-related phenomena and considerations of equality will be quite likely to prove unsustainable in the long run. The conclusions are still preliminary, but they offer important considerations regarding the implications of climate change for the region's countries.

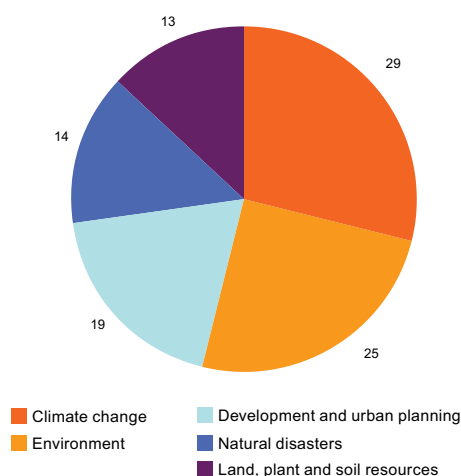
sustainable development and human settlements. At least 10 countries²⁸ have adopted policies in line with ECLAC recommendations. In addition, through these services, the Division has supported 9 countries²⁹ in developing their *Review of the Economics of Climate Change*, and has collaborated with the ECLAC subregional headquarters in implementing the Central America and Caribbean regional studies. This research will continue and be reinforced during the next biennium.

²⁸ Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Uruguay.

²⁹ Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Figure 8

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



Jointly with the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA) and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), the Division carried out an external evaluation of the Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Deforestation in the Amazon at the invitation of the Ministry of Environment and the Executive Office of the President of Brazil. The evaluation concluded, overall, that the Action Plan was crucial to reducing illegal deforestation in the region. The conclusions have been useful for planning a new phase of the Action Plan to be initiated in 2012.

The Division has developed numerous projects in the area of climate change and mitigation. Prominent among these are three courses and three studies on socioeconomic impacts of climate change in the framework of the EUROCLIMA programme.

In the context of a Carolina Foundation project, an agreement was reached to conduct a study on technology transfer and climate change. The study will be published as *Climate change and technology transfer: a view from Latin America*, and discusses the key characteristics of innovation and technology transfer and its potential contribution in the context of climate change, the potential of some renewable energies in the region and the debate on proper technology transfer.

ECLAC-ESCAP project Ecoefficient and sustainable urban infrastructure in Asia and Latin America was also carried out during the biennium. Case studies were conducted in Barranquilla and Cartagena (Colombia) and Coquimbo (Chile)

and one of the project's major outputs was a methodological guideline for ecoefficient urban infrastructure. The guidelines were developed to inspire change among local governments (and other actors in the field of urban development) in the planning, design and management of urban infrastructure. The goal is to encourage an integrated approach, taking into account principles and criteria of eco-efficiency and social inclusiveness.

In 2010 and 2011, ECLAC conducted several missions to estimate the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of disasters. Those missions included: the earthquake in Haiti (2010); the earthquake in Chile (preliminary evaluation) (2010); the El Niño phenomenon in the Plurinational State of Bolivia (2010); the AH1N1 epidemic in Mexico (2010); Tropical Storm Agatha in Guatemala and El Salvador (2010); and flooding in Colombia (2011). These natural disasters had an important impact on the countries' development. ECLAC has therefore continued to promote the inclusion of disaster risk reduction in national and local planning in the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Finally, as an outcome of several regional meetings, 15 countries³⁰ of the region have set up networks to exchange experiences on the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) and to formulate common positions. Furthermore, nine countries³¹ have strengthened their capacity to assess the socioeconomic impacts of extreme natural events as a result of technical cooperation services.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

The key sustainable development challenges facing the region remain the same as before, but are situated in a new and more demanding context of climate change and a rearrangement of global economic power. The challenges are to eradicate poverty and eliminate inequalities; reverse the destruction of ecosystems that provide habitat for the region's rich biological diversity and a source of income for local populations; achieve local development

³⁰ Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

³¹ Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico and Suriname.

(both rural and urban) that guarantees human security and satisfies the economic needs of the citizens of the region's countries; and consolidate institutions that ensure continuous improvement in integrating the three spheres of development and prevent backsliding in adverse situations, by promoting full participation of key actors, including women, young people and indigenous peoples. The outcomes of Rio+20 will be a central reference for the work of the subprogramme in the future.

Moreover, the interrelationships between economic growth, environmental protection, climate change, urban development and social equality are increasingly important for Governments and the main social stakeholders in Latin America and the Caribbean. Synergies between the Division's various types of activities—the preparation of national case studies, the provision of technical assistance and training courses, the organization of regional and subregional discussion forums, and the promotion of political dialogues at the country level—will allow the subprogramme to continue strengthening the capacities of the region's countries. The

scope of the subprogramme will encompass the integration of public policies and institution-building for environmental management, including urban and land use issues. Policies for sustainable development and climate change will serve as the pivotal elements of the subprogramme around which most of its activities will be planned. Lastly, the efficient execution of the subprogramme will require a relatively high degree of flexibility for addressing the changing environment in which activities take place.

The Division will continue to focus on assisting countries in designing more specific measures, policies, instruments and programmes for sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Assessment of the socioeconomic impacts of geological and hydro-meteorological disasters is a field requiring continued work; and disaster evaluation needs to be complemented with risk management. For urban sustainable development, different types of impacts and measures need to be simulated in order to design adaptation and management plans for metropolitan cities.



Hugo Altomonte
*Chief of the Natural Resources
 and Infrastructure Division*

SUBPROGRAMME 9

NATURAL RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Structural reforms undertaken by countries in Latin America and the Caribbean in the last two decades have induced significant changes in the institutional sectors related to the management and use of natural resources (water, mining and energy) and the provision of infrastructure services in drinking water and sanitation, energy and transportation. These changes, however, have yielded mixed results, with some stagnation and even occasional setbacks in the various dimensions of sustainable development.

The current coexistence in the region of a multiplicity of organizational models in these sectors and the mixed results observed raise new questions about its optimal performance and the efficient, sustainable and equitable management of natural resources and infrastructure services. In response to these challenges, the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division has contributed to strengthening the capacities of the region's countries to formulate and implement policies aimed at promoting and moving simultaneously toward the goals of economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability.

The work carried out by the Division yielded the conclusion that it is essential for the countries to continue consolidating their reform processes in order to enhance the systemic competitiveness of the sectors in question. In view of the impacts of globalization, it is also necessary to make progress at the same time in strengthening the regulatory role of the State. Another important issue which arose during the 2010-2011 biennium was the need to reduce the negative externalities generated by increased production and service activities in these sectors. A close eye also needs to be kept on the potential risks associated with over-concentration, and the possibility that dominant, oligopolistic market structures could develop.

In this regard, the Division conducted many activities and provided substantial technical assistance to the countries of the region, both in Latin America and in the Caribbean. The work was aimed at strengthening the countries' institutional capacities and skills for enhancing their regulatory framework. Through technical assistance, the Division helped to assess the ideal combination of control and competition in each sector, overcoming deficits and gaps, improving the transparency of information systems and helping to balance the rights and obligations of service providers, both public and private, and government users.

Finally, on the one hand, work was done under the subprogramme to improve local, subnational and national coordination of policy formulation and implementation in sustainable development sectors and in activities related to natural resources, energy and infrastructure within the countries. On the other, the coordination of such policies and regulatory frameworks was promoted at the subregional level, through the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), the Mesoamerica Project, MERCOSUR, and the Andean and Caribbean subregions, and at international levels.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE REGION

In the post-crisis era, the economic patterns related to natural resources and infrastructure services became the focus of analyses looking at structural change in markets and environmental and social sustainability. The analytical assessment revealed that the region must: (i) remedy the shortfall in investment in infrastructure services; (ii) ensure the sustainable management and technological valuation of natural resources, and (iii) strengthen energy security and full access through more active policies for efficiency, diversification and regional integration in the short and medium terms. Undoubtedly, the achievement of these objectives implies a series of trade-offs, which must be taken into account when formulating public policy proposals.

The region has made considerable advances towards providing drinking water and, to a lesser extent, sanitation services. However, the institutional frameworks for water management and drinking water supply and sanitation services still reveal major deficiencies and fail to ensure economic efficiency, social equity or environmental sustainability. In the energy sector, the countries of the region have striven to improve diversification of the energy matrix towards renewable sources, but these efforts have still not culminated in any significant achievement. The same has occurred with energy efficiency. More in-depth analysis is needed on the mining sector and on the economic, social and environmental aspects of its development. The conflicts that have emerged between the mining industry and local communities call for a more in-depth analysis, but above all, government, environmental and mining authorities need to engage in more frequent and transparent dialogue during the process of granting mining concessions.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

During 2010-2011, the subprogramme has continued to strengthen the capacity of the countries of the region and to promote discussions on best practices for formulation of sustainable policies in the main thematic fields of its work: water, mining, energy resources and infrastructure. ECLAC has consolidated a process of coordination and harmonization of policies regarding the sustainable management of natural resources and infrastructure at

the subregional and regional levels, involving work with 24 institutions. Under the subprogramme, 46 expert group meetings, seminars, courses and workshops were held, and 38 documents were published containing research results and analysis, in addition to 45 recurrent publications. Reflecting the relevance of these publications, the Division website contents recorded over 8.6 million downloads.

The Division organized several seminars to disseminate the results of its research. In relation to the thematic area of water resources, a regional conference on building commitment, efficiency and equity for sustainable drinking water and sanitation services in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Santiago in March 2011. The major outcome of this event was the formulation of public policy guidelines for the water supply and sanitation sector. The Division also coordinated the regional session on Latin America and the Caribbean at the International conference Water in the Green Economy in Practice: Towards Rio +20 (Zaragoza, Spain, October 2011), with the objective of positioning the water agenda as a key element for advancing towards a green economy. In addition, the Division contributed to the seventh Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management (Medellin, Colombia, 13-19 November 2011), as well as in the regional preparatory processes for the sixth World Water Forum (Marseille, France, 12-17 March 2012) and for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20).

Also as part of these dissemination activities, the Division organized the first policy dialogue on energy efficiency in Latin America and the Caribbean: Towards sustainable institutionalities (Santiago, November 2010), in which representatives from 11 countries of the region and cooperation agencies participated. The main objective of the event was to strengthen the institutional, technical and regulatory framework of the Latin American and Caribbean countries to implement national energy efficiency programmes through cooperation, exchange and dialogue with other regions of the world. The main outcome of this event was the creation of a database of performance indicators to serve in evaluating the results of policies and programmes applied.

Furthermore, 12 workshops were organized on integrated energy planning by means of the Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning System (LEAP) model. The content of each workshop was based on energy scenarios prepared

for each of the 12 countries participating.³² Each scenario considers a homogeneous module that processes information on biofuels production as well as the planned or possible sources of demand arising from the increase in the percentage of the biofuels mix and/or exports. In total, 307 people from 77 government institutions participated in the workshops.

Within the framework of these dissemination activities, two events were organized on biofuel issues. The first was the policy dialogue on institutional development and innovation in biofuels in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, March 2011). During the two-day event, government representatives, academics and experts from 12 countries discussed important aspects of innovation systems needed to promote biofuels production, patents and intellectual property topics as well as sustainability assessment tools for the production and use of biofuels. The second event was a regional forum on biofuels (San Salvador, 30 November and 1 December 2011), which offered an opportunity to exchange experiences, promote research and analyse the challenges of sustainable development in biofuels use and production and to find ways to increase subregional cooperation.

In the field of mining, the Division organized, jointly with the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, the Senior Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Development of Lithium Resources in Latin America (Santiago, November 2010). This event was organized together with the Emerging Issues Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and was attended by 55 experts from Latin America and countries outside the region, including representatives of concerned national governments, the private sector, business associations, non-statutory authorities, research institutes, academia, international organizations and civil society groups. During the meeting 21 expert presentations were given including: (i) sectoral overviews assessing major issues and trends in the supply of and the demand for lithium carbonate, in particular for electric mobility; (ii) country reports presented by experts from Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile and Mexico; (iii) selected issue papers and presentations reflecting on perspectives for enhancing the

"....I restate my gratitude for the results obtained and must mention the valuable support that ECLAC always provides to the Minister of Energy and Hydrocarbons of Bolivia".

Franklin Molina Ortiz, Vice Minister of Energetic Development, Ministry of Energy and Hydrocarbons of the Plurinational State of Bolivia (La Paz, 30 September 2011).

sustainability in the production of lithium carbonate in Latin America; and (iv) national experiences, suggestions and proposals for enhancing national, regional and international cooperation in lithium resource development.

Under other lines of work, the Division has made important contributions to the policies of the countries of the region, by introducing into the regional agenda: (i) the need to advance towards integrated infrastructure, transport and logistics policies; (ii) the development of a complete assessment of regional infrastructure restrictions and its impact on the development of Latin America and the Caribbean, emphasizing the efforts undertaken to characterize and measure the economic infrastructure gap in the region today. Likewise, major advances were registered in incorporating sustainability concepts into the discussion on low-carbon infrastructures in public policies in several countries of the region.

The Division organized two high-level seminars: first, Sustainable transport policies in Ibero-America (Montevideo, October 2010), at which 10 vice-ministers of transport and senior authorities of Ibero-American ports discussed the role of transport and ports in sustainable development. The second was held in Santiago, in November 2011. On this occasion, 26 delegates, including three ministers of transport and four vice-ministers, analysed the impact of infrastructure policies on economic and social development in the countries of the region, outlining the need to coordinate a regional strategy for sustainable transport in Latin America, following the recommendations made under the subprogramme.

The Division also organized the international seminar Latin American Dialogue on financing of low-carbon electricity, jointly with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and the Global Sustainable Electricity Partnership (formerly e8) (Santiago, 22-23 August 2011). The purpose

³² Bolivia (Plurinational State of) Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Participation of ECLAC in the region in the field of infrastructure, transport and logistics

Throughout the biennium, the Division has been continuously active in the area of infrastructure, transport and logistics policies with a regional perspective. In this regard, the most important political impact was achieved in 2010 with the signature of the Tuxtla Declaration by the presidents of the 10 countries of the Mesoamerica Project: Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Honduras and Panama. The document recognizes the support given by ECLAC in the area of transport infrastructure. In addition, the countries asked to work jointly with ECLAC in three specific areas: multimodal transport policies, logistics chain security and infrastructure projects. The Commission's collaboration was also requested by the pro-tempore presidency of the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA), for the preparation of the basis for a strategic action plan for the period 2012-2020. This request was successfully fulfilled and accepted by 10 countries: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname and Uruguay.

Finally, the document *Infrastructure for Regional Integration* was prepared under the subprogramme. This document sets forth a diagnosis on this topic for the UNASUR countries and offer guidelines for formulating public policies in this sector.

These examples reflect the confidence of the Governments of Latin America in the technical capacity of ECLAC and its regional leadership in the area of infrastructure, transport and logistics.

of the event was to promote discussion on challenges and solutions for financing low-carbon electricity in the region, and to share perspectives and expertise on electricity investment policies and regulatory frameworks conducive to investment. Through interactive panel discussions and working sessions moderated by international experts on the subject, the seminar was found to have helped to build capacities in the region to attract capital for low-carbon electricity projects through appropriate strategies and concrete action plans.

Finally, national authorities, the private sector and maritime researchers from 40 countries in America, Asia, Europe, Oceania and Africa participated in the Annual Conference of

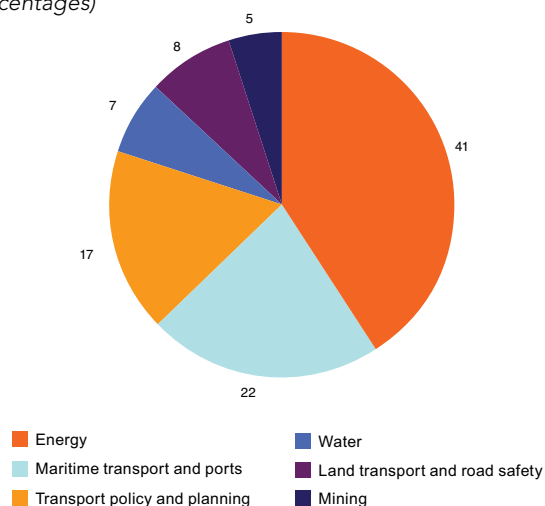
the International Association of Maritime Economists 2011 Latin America, which was held on 25-28 October at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago. During the meeting, ECLAC presented a study on time horizons from the largest ships to reach South American coasts and the effect on planning of port infrastructure and associated logistical services.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

Figure 9

Technical assistance missions

(Percentages)



ECLAC has provided relevant technical cooperation services on an ongoing basis to the countries of the region regarding the sustainable management of natural resources and the regulation of public utilities infrastructure services. At least six countries of the region³³ have benefited from technical cooperation services in the area of policy formulation and measures related to the production and use of biofuels and development of energy efficiency practices. Four countries—Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala and Uruguay—applied ECLAC methodology for the formulation and monitoring of energy efficiency national plans. ECLAC also supported three countries in the preparation and creation of different activities related to the development of sustainable energy sources.³⁴ The satisfaction rate for technical cooperation activities organized by the Division was 92%.

³³ Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras and Peru.

³⁴ Ecuador in the preparation of the first national geothermal conference, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in the preparation of a feasibility study for geothermal development, and Chile in the design of a proposal for the creation of a Latin American solar centre.

An important area of study and technical cooperation activities for the Division during the biennium was the water resources sector, in which a series of activities were carried out with excellent results. For example, the Division cooperated with Chile's Sanitary Services Superintendency regarding the organization's concerns on dealing with water supply and sewerage service providers belonging to holding companies or conglomerates, and how transactions with related companies could impact tariff setting. The Superintendency is using ECLAC recommendations in its study aimed at changing the standards on procurement in the water supply and sewerage industry. This work included a preliminary seminar (March 2010, approximately 20 participants), a technical workshop (September 2010, about 20 participants) and a study aimed at public policy formulation (February 2011).

The water supply and sanitation sector of Guatemala suffers from significant deficiencies which impact on public health, social equity, the environment and economic development. To help overcome these problems the Division cooperated with the Technical Secretariat of the Specific Water Cabinet and the presidential programme "Water, source of peace", contributing public policy formulation-oriented research (July 2010) and a workshop (November-December 2010, approximately 50 participants). The aim was to recommend public policy guidelines, provide training in specialized areas relating to the sector's legal and institutional framework and identify best practices in economic regulation and supervision of service provision.

In addition, the Government of Chile, through the Department of Water, requested technical cooperation from the World Bank and the Division to support the review of the water sector and the national strategy for integrated water resources management. The Department of Water recognized that the resulting analysis was comprehensive and of high quality and that the proposed objectives had been achieved.

On the same subject, the Division cooperated with: (i) Peru's National Superintendence of Sanitation Services in analysing the country's water bill and in preparing guidelines and methodological procedures for determining the returns on private or mixed investment that would be used in tariff setting, and (ii) with Superintendency of Public Domiciliary Services of Colombia, contributing to public policy evaluation, the improvement of the industrial

structure and the organization of administrative and territorial service provision. Both countries acknowledged that this cooperation represented a substantive contribution and relevant input for training and for the modification of the public policies applicable to the institutional framework for water supply (Peru) and sewerage services and drinking water and sanitation (Colombia).

The Division provided valuable technical cooperation, too, in mining. The analysis focused on two areas: the role of mining in protected areas and the multiple uses of water in mining. Technical cooperation services were provided to the Ministry of Mining and Metallurgy of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, in prevention and conflict resolution in the Bolivian mining industry, especially in the cities of Oruro and Potosí. The Division's recommendations were considered key elements in industry security and in risk and conflict management between the mining industry and local communities.

In addition, high-level assistance was provided to the Ministry of Environment of Peru. The recommendations offered concerned illegal mining activity in the Peruvian Amazon area and suggested the organization of alternative employment programmes and the eradication of subtechnical activities in small-scale mining.

In relation to energy matters, the Division carried out several technical cooperation activities. As requested by the Ministry of Energy and Mining of Jamaica, and based on studies prepared by the division — "Renewable energies potential in Jamaica" (2005) and "Policies for Energy efficiency in Jamaica" (2010)—, the Government of Jamaica decided to implement a national programme to add ethanol to commercial gasoline at a rate of 10%. Technical assistance was also provided to the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on the use of geothermal resources, to the Government of Uruguay regarding the progress of the National Energy Efficiency Programme and the diversification of the energetic matrix, and to the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on the formulation of a national hydrocarbons policy.

Lastly, the Infrastructure Services Unit carried out a series of activities to promote best practices in shipping and to improve the management of port and logistics services in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to promoting equal economic and social development in

“We are grateful to ECLAC for its participation in the transport-related activities of the Mesoamerica Project and instruct the technical commission on transport to work with ECLAC on developing projects in freight safety, public policy design and multinational infrastructure”.

Declaration of the meeting of transport ministers of the Mesoamerica Project, San José, 21 May 2010.

the region.³⁵ In addition, specific studies on landlocked countries and their challenges were carried out in relation to the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Paraguay. Major efforts were devoted to updating and increasing the information in the maritime profile, with data on river and Caribbean ports.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

The experience accrued under the subprogramme during the past biennium integrated perspectives from different disciplines (economics, law, sociology, and so forth) and sectors or areas of study (resource management, public utility services, economic integration, macroeconomic policies, environmental protection).

One example in this respect is the experience built up in the framework of a project developed by the Division to generate energy efficiency indicators in countries of the region, so that Governments will be better prepared to design sustainable public policies. In the course of the activities, it became clear that different points of view had to be integrated: various public and private actors and different sectoral approaches (energy markets, public transportation, civil society participation, new regulatory frameworks, and others).

This experience pointed to the path that should be followed in the future in matters related to the governance of natural resources (energy, water and mining).

In a globalized and interlinked society, the challenge is to make better use of new communication technologies in order to: (i) track emerging issues; (ii) secure better access to existing information; and (iii) reach out to new groups of stakeholders. In this regard, the Division implemented a strategy for the dissemination of documents and information. This strategy has given staff members a better understanding of stakeholders' views through ad hoc surveys, feedback on ideas and new topics for future investigations and activities.

³⁵ Activities conducted with Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Uruguay.



Luis Beccaria

Chief of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division

SUBPROGRAMME 10

STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS

During the 2010-2011 biennium, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division continued to provide support under the subprogramme to the region's countries in their efforts to build, strengthen and harmonize statistical information and the decision-making systems underlying the design, monitoring and assessment of development policies in the region.

Regarding statistics for the Millennium Development Goals, efforts were aimed at reducing information gaps and discrepancies between national and international sources, and improving the coordination among national agencies in order to increase the number of countries making satisfactory progress towards the production of indicators to monitor achievement of the Goals.³⁶ According to the Millennium Indicators Database, this number reached 28 in the biennium.

The subprogramme has played a major role in the region in promoting the new recommendations on national accounts and in supporting countries in enhancing national accounts quality and coverage. In this regard, 24 countries of the region made satisfactory progress in implementing the System of National Accounts 1993, including satellite accounts. Several countries were also assisted in updating the base year for their consumer price indices and in efforts to improve international harmonization. A major effort was devoted to programming and implementing the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean, since ECLAC is the regional coordination agency for the Programme. The full incorporation of the Central American and Caribbean countries into the project represents a major improvement compared with previous rounds.

Further support provided under the subprogramme to the household survey teams of several countries has helped to improve the quality of existing surveys and facilitated the implementation of new ones. Regarding poverty measurement, initial steps were taken under the subprogramme towards adopting the multidimensional approach and the income-based methodology continued to be updated. A new proposal for subjective indicators and their analysis was developed in the biennium, along with the more traditional objective social indicators.

10

³⁶ Measured as the number of countries presenting information for at least 30 Millennium indicators for at least two different years.

STATISTICS IN LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN

Although economic, social, demographic and environmental statistics have improved significantly, the quality and transparency of national statistics systems have yet to be brought in line with international best practices, and their use by economic agents, social actors and decision makers must be promoted. These targets were defined in the strategic plan 2005-2015 for regional statistical development, adopted at the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC in June 2005.

In order to achieve these objectives, countries must strive to implement the System of National Accounts (1993 and 2008 recommendations). In addition, the economic crisis of 2008-2009 highlighted the need to foster the production of short-term economic statistics and develop a system of early-warning indicators. Countries must also strengthen their capacity to monitor the indicators to follow up on internationally agreed development goals. The region's statistical systems will also need to tackle other challenges, including implementation of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses and the production of statistical data and indicators in new areas (such as the environment and gender). In addition, the harmonization of statistical data remains a key issue.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010-2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

Improvements in dissemination have been accompanied by an increase in the number of visits to the 2011 edition of the Division's flagship publication *Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean*, which recorded 779,852 downloads during this biennium. In addition, the 2009 and 2010 editions of the electronic version were downloaded 336,463 times.

ECLAC also disseminates statistical information through its information portal, CEPALSTAT, which contains a series of thematic databases covering a variety of issues (social, national accounts, the environment, gender affairs, productive activities, and external trade, among others), which are updated regularly. During the past two years, data consistency of CEPALSTAT was enhanced

by reducing duplication of statistical series contained in different individual bases, by including new series and by providing new facilities for accessing the data. With these improvements, the database registered over 880,000 visits during 2010-2011, an increase of 78% compared to the 2008-2009 biennium. The database of external goods trade statistics underwent major changes and the new version was launched in 2011.

ECLAC played an important role in the dissemination of international recommendations, not only through technical assistance, but also through the organization of and participation in meetings. During the reporting period, two regional seminars on national accounts were organized

Visits to the website and to CEPALSTAT and downloads of *Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean* totalled almost 6 million during the biennium, confirming that the Division is one of the leading sources of statistical information in the region.

Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean



Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean is published annually and seeks to respond to the needs of users who require reliable and sound statistical information in order to analyse the economic, social and environmental situation of the region.



The 2010 and 2011 editions of the *Statistical Yearbook* comprise four chapters. The first covers demographic and social indicators, reflecting special efforts to mainstream the gender perspective in statistical information.

The second chapter presents economic statistics relating to trade, the balance of payments and prices, as well as national accounts. Taking into account the growing concern of the regional and international community over sustainable development issues, the third chapter provides quantitative information on the environment. The information presented in the fourth chapter deals with methodology and metadata, supplementing the more specific information contained in the footnotes to each of the tables of these editions of the *Yearbook*.

in Lima (November 2010) and Santiago (October 2011). In these seminars, the strategy for the implementation of the 2008 recommendations on national accounts was discussed, as well as how to coordinate the worldwide efforts of several international agencies working in the same direction. As agreed in the above-mentioned seminars, ECLAC supported the preparation of two technical reports—on the informal sector and on the treatment of financial intermediation—in which several countries participated.

A workshop on satellite accounts on health took place in Lima in November 2010. This activity was jointly organized with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Andean Commission on Health and Economy. Another workshop on this topic was held in Santiago in November 2011, organized jointly with PAHO and the Ministry of Health of Chile.

Four regional seminars were held on the Millennium indicators. One was held on health matters in April 2010 jointly with PAHO; the second, on ICT, in September 2010; the third, in February 2011, with the United Nations Statistics Division on the implementation and methodological aspects of the international recommendations on merchandise and services trade statistics; and the fourth, in December 2011, with the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico. These meetings provided a forum to analyse discrepancies between national and international data and complementary indicators for specific goals. They were all attended by representatives of the countries of the region and international organizations. ECLAC coordinated on an ongoing basis with the United Nations Statistics Division and the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goals Indicators, which proved to be fruitful for the countries of the region. In addition, a coordination meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas Working Group on the Monitoring of Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals took place in Buenos Aires in July 2011.

The Division continued producing, together with the World Tourism Organization, tourism indicators not only for the countries of the region but at the global level, and as an instrument to complement the tourism satellite account. New estimates for 2010 (and those corresponding to previous years) were disseminated through the *Cuaderno estadístico* N° 39 América Latina y el Caribe: Indicadores macroeconómicos del turismo, issued in January 2011.

"As technical secretariat of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, ECLAC has been a tireless bastion of support for the Chair of the Conference, the Executive Committee and, particularly, the working groups, and has unflinchingly supported the Conference's projects and initiatives. As always, we wish to commend ECLAC upon its excellent work and merit."

Pablo Tactuk, Director of the National Statistical Office of the Dominican Republic, remarks made at the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, November 2011.

Progress has been made towards the development of a multidimensional poverty measurement. As part of the activities in this area, ECLAC organized a seminar in Santiago in May 2010, together with the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation of Chile, the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) of the University of Oxford, and the Chilean NGO Foundation for Overcoming Poverty. New steps were also taken to widen the production and use of subjective indicators for social analysis such as those on perception of the State. Another seminar on this issue was organized in Santiago in November 2010.

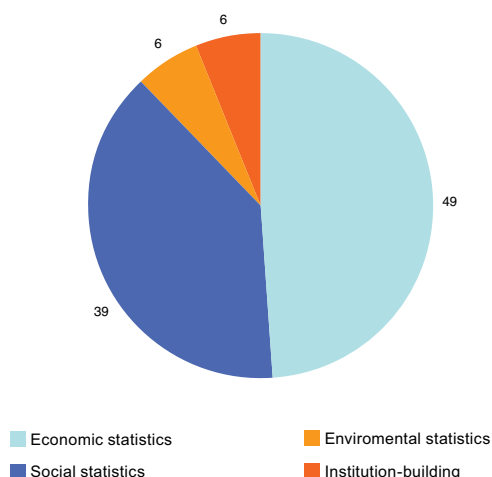
In terms of publications, the report *ECLAC: Development of Official Statistics in the Region* was presented by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, Alicia Bárcena, at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago on World Statistics Day in October 2010. The report states that over the past decade the great majority of Latin American and Caribbean countries made significant progress in developing statistics in different fields and describes the main trends in the development of official statistics and the main challenges that lie ahead.

Lastly, with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC), environmental indicators are being developed and adapted, taking into account the region's statistical development. In this regard, ECLAC presented *Cuadernos estadísticos* N° 38 Indicadores ambientales de América Latina y el Caribe, 2009, which includes indicators showing the main environmental trends in the region. This document provides governments and the general public with environmental statistical series in the region in order to contribute to the monitoring and design of public policies for development and sustainability.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

Figure 10

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



ECLAC continued to support the efforts of the countries and to collaborate in the strengthening of their capacities through various technical cooperation activities carried out during the biennium. Regarding national accounts, technical cooperation missions were conducted in five countries. In El Salvador and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, support was given for activities related to the change of base year; Guatemala was assisted in the development of its quarterly accounts and in the compilation of its input-output table. In Ecuador support was given in the field of regional accounts, and in Uruguay in the estimation of the supply and use tables and balance-of-payments statistics. In the area of prices, the Division assisted Chile in the construction of its producer price index and provided technical assistance to Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Panama for activities related to the change of base year of consumer price indices.

In the field of international trade statistics, one regional workshop was organized with the United Nations Statistics Division, in order to discuss implementation and methodological aspects of the international recommendations on merchandise and services trade statistics.

Technical missions to various countries to analyse their price and national accounts statistics (from the viewpoint of the Programme) were also completed. During the first part of 2011 price-taking activities began in the Latin American

2011 round of the International Comparison Programme



ECLAC is responsible for coordinating the activities of the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Seventeen Latin American and 21 Caribbean countries are participating in the largest international statistical project in the world. Programming activities began in 2010 while, in 2011, price collection activities were carried out in Latin America and initiated in the Caribbean (where they carry into 2012).

The International Comparison Programme is a worldwide statistical partnership to collect comparative price data and compile detailed expenditure values in relation to countries' gross domestic products, and to estimate the purchasing power parities of the world's economies. Using purchasing power parities instead of market exchange rates to convert currencies makes it possible to compare the output of economies, competitiveness and productivity indicators, poverty measurements and the welfare of their inhabitants in real terms. Beyond that specific objective, the project has important positive externalities as it facilitates and promotes improvements in basic economic statistics.

region and the first price validation meeting was held in May 2011. Regarding the Caribbean, the main features of the programme of activities were agreed with the countries. Preparatory activities were carried out throughout 2010 and 2011, including those concerning price with the objective of reaching a regional list. Technical missions to various Caribbean countries to analyse their price and national accounts statistics were also completed.

In the area of social statistics, eight countries³⁷ received ECLAC technical support to strengthen the design, implementation and analysis of their national household surveys (regular employment surveys or income and expenditure surveys, or both), while five countries³⁸ were assisted in the field of poverty measurement. ECLAC provided

³⁷ Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

³⁸ Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic and Guatemala.

support to five countries³⁹ that are engaged in modernizing the organization of their national statistical offices (and their statistics system). In the field of educational statistics, technical support was provided to the National Institute for Educational Assessment and Evaluation of Mexico.

The subprogramme also continued to focus on strengthening the countries' capacity to monitor the Millennium Development Goals. In particular, it aimed to reduce information gaps and discrepancies between national and international sources. Accordingly, ECLAC has been progressively developing a strategy and an agenda of conciliation, in close contact with countries, other international agencies and with major support from the Statistical Conference of the Americas. Such activity also supported the strategic objective of strengthening the institutional situation of the statistical systems. Furthermore, fostering coordination between the central statistical office, the different ministries or agencies involved in the production of statistics relating to the Millennium Development Goals, and the national agency responsible for producing the national report on the Goals is a major objective of the activities in this field.

ECLAC and the World Bank began activities aimed at harmonizing their definitions of several variables derived from the household surveys included in their respective databases, especially those related to household incomes. Accomplishment of this objective is also expected to improve comparability of the two organizations' poverty measurements as well as their dialogue with countries, leading to greater harmonization with —and among— national poverty indicators.

Concerning environmental statistics, countries were supported with technical assistance (missions to Ecuador and the Dominican Republic, and the facilitation of horizontal cooperation between Spain, and Brazil and Mexico). A training course in Trinidad and Tobago on the strengthening of capacities for producing indicators and statistics took place in December 2010; 29 people from 13 countries participated. The course was well rated by the participants, as 86% said that the workshop was excellent and 76% indicated that its substantive content was also excellent. A project on satellite accounts and indicators

- Twenty-four⁴⁰ countries have implemented the System of National Accounts 1993 recommendations, adapting them to their own requirements and producing new estimates.
- Twenty-eight countries had data available for calculating most Millennium Development Goal indicators.
- At least seven countries have adopted ECLAC recommendations for monitoring economic, social and environment trends and formulating evidence-based policies.

on water began in late 2010 and two launching meetings were held in May 2011, one in Colombia and the other one in Ecuador. Within this project, technical workshops on collecting and validating information were held in both countries. Technical staff also made a study visit to the National Statistical Office of Spain.

Regarding training, the Division organized two courses on quarterly national accounts together with the International Monetary Fund; one took place in Brasilia in April 2010 and the other in El Salvador in August 2010. In March 2011 another course on annual national accounts took place in Brasilia. These activities were directed at national accounts compilers from most countries of the region. Another course, on the KANGARE module of national accounts, was held in Mexico in May 2010, attended by representatives of various Latin American countries. The Division contributed to one course on different stages of the implementation of household surveys for the countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, organized by the International Labour Organization and attended by 20 participants from six countries. A course on household survey sampling was given as part of a larger training activity organized by the Caribbean Community, in which 12 countries and 35 individuals participated. Together with Labour Analysis and Information System in Latin America and the Caribbean and the International Labour Organization, a course on panel surveys was given for nine countries (20 participants).

³⁹ Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

⁴⁰ In Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). In the Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Dominica, Grenada, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

A course on multidimensional poverty measurement was organized in December 2010 by ECLAC together with the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation of Chile and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative. The participants—a total of 30—were officials of the Government of Chile and eight other Governments of the region.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

Socioeconomic and environmental statistics and indicators are vital resources to inform and support sustainable development. Therefore, the quality, timeliness and integrity of statistics must meet the most rigorous standards. The production and publication of accurate statistics also help to reinforce democracy by contributing to the process of public participation and enhancing the transparency and accountability of the political system. Reliable and easily accessible information systems are not only a concern for statisticians, but a prerequisite for good governance at the country level. Economic, social and environmental statistics, produced on a regular basis, are crucial for public policies. They provide evidence of underlying economic and social conditions and help to identify the main problems and constraints for the design of policies, programmes and projects. Moreover, they are the main inputs for appropriate monitoring and evaluation of public actions.

The activities deployed in supporting economic and social statistics made an important contribution towards fulfilling the objectives of the strategic plan of the Statistical

Conference of the Americas. Improving basic economic statistics is an area still requiring greater efforts. This has proven to be a constraint on work aimed at consolidating the implementation of new international recommendations in national accounts. More work is therefore needed to highlight the importance of generating good quality basic economic data. In the international field, this means more coordination with specialized agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and with other institutions dealing with economic indicators, such as the International Monetary Fund. It was also acknowledged that the countries need specific technical support to implement international classifications. Accordingly, ECLAC promoted the creation of a specific working group within the Statistical Conference of the Americas to deal with this issue. The various meetings held with countries' representatives have revealed that new areas of concern, or new approaches to established issues, are gaining importance in the statistical work in the region. A few of these are: more comprehensive measures of well-being and development, statistics on crime and victimization and multidimensional poverty. ECLAC has already begun to tackle some of these issues but more work will be needed on methodological areas. At the same time, however, it is clear that only a few of the region's countries will be in a position in the near future to incorporate these issues into the regular activities of their statistical systems, because many lack the basic statistical instruments to provide the basic data to assess those phenomena, and many still need to improve the data quality.



Hugo Beteta

Chief of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico

SUBPROGRAMME 11

SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

The international financial crisis that started in 2008 and rapidly turned into the worst global recession since the Great Depression, adversely affected the countries of the subregion, putting additional pressure on their development agenda. The subregional economy is growing although at a slower pace than before the crisis. The external context is turning unfavourable again, with the European Union slipping into another recession and the United States economy still far from fully recovered. This situation calls for governments to strengthen coordination between their economic and social policies to reduce the adverse impacts of external shocks and to achieve a high long-term rate of economic growth, reduce inequality and poverty, increase competitiveness, and address the needs of adaptation, vulnerability reduction and mitigation relative to climate change and extreme natural phenomena.

In this context, during the biennium, efforts under the subprogramme were aimed at assisting the Governments and stakeholders of the countries served by the office in Mexico (Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama) to strengthen their capacities to address economic and social issues (both at a national and subregional level, especially on poverty alleviation), as well as to design or evaluate policies and measures in the areas of trade, integration and sustainable development.

The assistance was directed towards different strata of economic and social agents in the various countries covered by the subregional headquarters in Mexico. As a result of this assistance four countries —Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua and Haiti, respectively— adopted or made use of ECLAC analysis and recommendations in key issues for development, including the identification of main macroeconomic constraints on economic growth and of barriers hindering commercial bank lending to small and medium sized enterprises, the measurement of multidimensional poverty, and the development of a national plan for science, technology and innovation and of a plan of action for recovery and development. Additionally, six⁴¹ countries adopted ECLAC recommendations on fundamental aspects of sectoral policies. These recommendations touched on new negotiations on margins with retail distributors of petroleum and gas products, public-private alliances, the effects of climate change on water resources, agriculture, biodiversity and extreme events, a national energy policy, the use of various United Nations computer models to analyse international competitiveness and industrial growth, the development of an agricultural strategy,⁴² the measurement of the impact of free trade agreements on selected goods and services,⁴³ the design of innovative incentives for foreign direct investment, and the evaluation of the impact of agricultural projects on food security.⁴⁴

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⁴¹ Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Honduras, respectively.

⁴² Development of the Dominican Republic agricultural strategy 2011-2030: Volume I “Strategic guidelines: diagnosis” and Volume II “Strategy, proposals for the national agricultural dialogue, phase 2011-2016”.

⁴³ This is an outcome of the courses conducted by staff of the SRO on computer programs of the United Nations (MAGIC, TradeCAN, TradeMAP, Market Access Map and WITS).

⁴⁴ Evaluation of the strategic food security project “Guerrero without Hunger”, conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) and the State of Guerrero, was concluded and the results presented to SAGARPA and the Governor of the State of Guerrero with a view to improving the impact of the project on the final beneficiaries.

THE CONTEXT IN THE SUBREGION

During the past two decades the countries of the subregion have pursued an export-led growth strategy, including the promotion of foreign direct investment and of new export sectors. Although trade has grown rapidly, the expansion of output (GDP) and employment has been moderate, and the reduction of poverty and inequality is still insufficient. The substantial migratory movements within and outside the region have continued as well as sizable flows of remittances, on which many families are dependent. The world recession of 2008-2009 —and particularly the economic downturn in the United States— meant that the main engine of growth for the subregion lost impulse. In addition, it was also hard hit by the increase in food and energy prices in 2008. These elements bring about new challenges to put in place a long-run strategy for sustainable and equitable development including the creation of the necessary quality employment to absorb the expansion of the labour force, exploit the demographic dividend and reduce poverty.

In the case of Central America and the Dominican Republic, integration into the global economy has become increasingly associated with trade agreements with major economic partners, including the United States and the European Union. Ensuring that trade integration significantly contributes to economic development depends not only on measures for its effective implementation, but also on a more comprehensive development strategy that includes the promotion of technological learning, innovation and dissemination, and systemic competitiveness, including the incorporation of greater value added into exports of goods and services.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

Assistance provided under the subprogramme during the biennium was directed towards different levels of economic and social agents in the various countries covered by ECLAC, including policymakers, representatives and officers of government agencies, non-governmental organizations and civil society associations, as well as academics, researchers and selected experts.

The subregional headquarters disseminated, at the highest level of the Governments of the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, and the State Government of Mexico's Federal District —with support from academic centres of excellence— the need to address a development strategy with equality as advocated in ECLAC document *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails*. This theme was also advocated to the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food, the Federal Electoral Institute, and the Colegio Mexiquense of Mexico, as well as to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Honduras. At the request of the Government of Nicaragua, a conference on Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails was held and attended by over 150 government employees and students from the foremost Nicaraguan universities.

Implementation of the strategy for electronic distribution of information and publications via the website of the ECLAC subregional headquarters resulted in an increase in downloads, from 115,000 in 2008-2009 to more than 638,000 in 2010-2011, reflecting increased access to and interest in the publications produced by ECLAC. Total downloads of the internet page exceeded 7 million.

In the area of economic development, ECLAC played a fundamental role in coordinating with the Central Bank of Mexico and the central banks of Central American countries, as well as with the respective regulatory bodies and authorities of the banking sectors, on the launch of a regional initiative to examine and to assess the micro- and macroeconomic implications of the adoption of the Basle III criteria on the banking and financial systems of the subregion. One of the first steps in this direction was the organization by the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico and the Central Bank of Mexico of a subregional seminar on this topic, for high-level authorities of central banks and regulatory bodies, held in Mexico City on 30 June–1 July 2011.

ECLAC and the International Monetary Fund's Technical Assistance Center for Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic (CAPTAC-DR) designed and are implementing the second phase of the project Building capacity in macroeconomic policy analysis in Central America and the Dominican Republic. In 2011, 12 weeks

of training were conducted on econometric modelling for 70 officials from central banks in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic and the Executive Secretariat of the Central American Monetary Council.

In the area of social development, the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico released the 2011 edition of its biennial publication, *Social Development Indicators*. The current edition updates key social indicators in 10 thematic areas of social development for the countries of the subregion, with the latest data and expansion of time series for many key socioeconomic variables. It also expands the indicators to include additional data such as the new human development indices of the United Nations Development Programme revised in 2010.

In June 2010, ECLAC organized an expert group meeting entitled Seminar on equality and development to present and discuss the main results and conclusions of the ECLAC publication *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails*, which sets forth the Commission's strategic approach to reducing social gaps by means of social development policies and complementary economic development strategies. ECLAC also published a memoir of the seminar in August 2010 to increase the dissemination of the ideas presented on that occasion. In that context, with the financial support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), a case study of policies for inclusive development in El Salvador was conducted under the subprogramme.

Since 2009, ECLAC has participated in the Joint programme for water and sanitation, which seeks to promote equitable economic development and democratic governance of water resources in marginalized areas in Mexico,⁴⁵ through capacity-building in local communities to increase and improve their participation in decision-making processes, and to enable more sustainable management of water resources and sanitation. Two documents were published through the programme, one on regulations of the water and sanitation services in Mexico and another on community management of water services and sanitation and its possible application in Mexico.

⁴⁵ The project activities focus on the States of Tabasco, Veracruz and Chiapas.

ECLAC carried out nine workshops in Tabasco, Veracruz and Chiapas, focused on disaster prevention and mitigation for local communities in all three states, benefiting 675 trainees. ECLAC also prepared and disseminated a local and a general guide aimed at helping the community and the authorities to manage risk through the active participation of society, and conducted five workshops for 250 participants on the use of the guides.

On the issues of international trade, industry and competition, under the subprogramme at least 10 documents were concluded on exploring opportunities and challenges for promising export areas. Studies focused on opportunities for increasing new exports in services, and on the functioning of national and regional markets, mainly with regard to diverse competition matters. Regional integration in Central America continues to be a central theme for research and policy advice. Diverse tasks have been undertaken on the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises in regional markets, the current situation, the outlook for the Central American customs union and new incentives to attract foreign direct investment in the region, in line with the rules of the World Trade Organization.

Training workshops by ECLAC in the use of specialized trade databases, such as the Module to Analyse the Growth of International Commerce (MAGIC Plus)⁴⁶ and other United Nations software such as Trade Competitive Analysis of Nations (TradeCAN),⁴⁷ Trade Market Analysis Profiles (TradeMAP)⁴⁸ and World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS),⁴⁹ continued to take place during 2010 and 2011. Two courses on MAGIC Plus were given: on 23 July 2010 at ECLAC premises for academics from the National University of Guadalajara, and on 15 June 2011 at the Institute for Economic Research at of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. At the request of the Ministry of Economic Affairs of Guatemala one Train the Trainers course was conducted in Guatemala City, on 11-14 April 2011; and a course in the use of MAGIC was given for Nicaraguan officials, at their request, on 15-16 November

⁴⁶ This database allows analysis of trade with the United States to a high level of detail.

⁴⁷ This software conducts analytical searches regarding world trade trends, as well as national and regional trade analysis.

⁴⁸ This database allows research into trade barriers, mainly tariffs, and trade data.

⁴⁹ WITS gives access to major international trade, tariffs and non-tariff data compilations, and allows for trade simulations.

2011. In all courses, participants were trained in the use of special United Nations software and on the analysis of the data generated. Of the respondents to the evaluations conducted at the end of the courses, 75% rated them as “excellent” and 25% as “very good”.

In the area of agriculture and rural development, the Central American Agricultural Committee continues to recognize the quality of the Agricultural Information System database (SIAGRO) and is now using SIAGRO as its official data source and has a direct link from its website. SIAGRO continued to provide current and historical information to stakeholders in the countries of the subregion. An information report on the agricultural sector (Food trends, 2000-2009) was published in the biennium.

A workshop on Tools for assessing the effects of climate change on agriculture was held in San José in November 2010. The workshop was attended by government officials and academics from Costa Rica, and aimed to impart the methodologies used in the document “Costa Rica: Effects of climate change on agriculture”, specifically those related to the use of the Data Analysis and Statistical Software (STATA), analysis of production functions, Ricardian modelling and the assessment of the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of disasters on the agricultural sector. Some 76% of respondents considered the workshop very useful for enhancing their knowledge on the application of these methodologies.

During the biennium a study was completed under the subprogramme on energy and climate change in Central America. The study’s findings were presented in the following forums to authorities and officials from the environment sectors: meetings held in Guatemala City (August 2010); Central American Electrification Council (San José, August 2010); Regional Congress on Clean Electricity (San José, March 2011); Meeting of directors of energy and hydrocarbons of the Central American Integration System (SICA) countries (Guatemala City, May 2011); Clean Energy Summit 2011, organized by the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (Guatemala, May 2011); and the Workshop on climate change and energy for the Government of El Salvador, organized by the Inter-American Development Bank.

Within the context of the United Nations Development Account, ECLAC initiated a project for strengthening

national capacities to design and implement sustainable energy policies for the production and use of biofuels. The component implemented by the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico encompassed seven countries (Dominican Republic and the six Central American countries). Within this project, seven national-level workshops were organized under the subprogramme between April and June 2011, on development scenarios and energy policy assessment in seven capital cities of countries served by the subregional headquarters (San José, San Salvador, Guatemala City, Tegucigalpa, Managua, Panama City and Santo Domingo), which were organized with the support of the ministries or institutions responsible for the energy sector of these countries. A total of 175 participants (from government offices, universities and the private sector) were trained. Four countries —Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama and Honduras— have used the tools provided during the workshop to update their respective energy development plans. Of the assessment survey respondents, 82% found the workshop contents of excellent, and 97% rated these events as very useful (62%) or useful (35%).

Regarding climate change, the presidents of the member countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA) established climate-change related mandates for their national and regional institutions. In the framework of the response to these mandates, the project The economics of climate change in Central America was launched jointly by ECLAC, the ministries of the environment and of financial affairs of the Central American countries, the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD) of SICA and the Central American Secretariat for Economic Integration (SIECA), with financial support from the Department for International Development of the Government of the United Kingdom and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).

The project was managed through a technical consultation process and produced analyses of the potential impacts of climate change and estimated costs for four key sectors: water resources, agriculture, biodiversity and hurricanes. It also analysed mitigation opportunities and adaptation challenges and identified multisectoral response measures on the basis of sustainable and inclusive adaptation, including a transition to low-carbon economies.

The summary report of the project was launched in El Salvador together with the Minister of Environment and

its outcomes were presented to the cabinet of ministers of El Salvador, the press and the community of non-governmental organizations. The international launch took place at a side event organized by the Central American Commission for Environment and Development at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP16), on which occasion several government ministers commented on the outcomes. The Central American Commission for Environment and Development used the results of the project extensively in the preparation of its *Regional Strategy on Climate Change* for Central America. The project's technical report was launched by the Minister of Environment of El Salvador in August 2011. Project publications were distributed by ministries of environment in their respective countries and presented and discussed in 20 activities, at both national and regional levels, with a total of 789 participants.

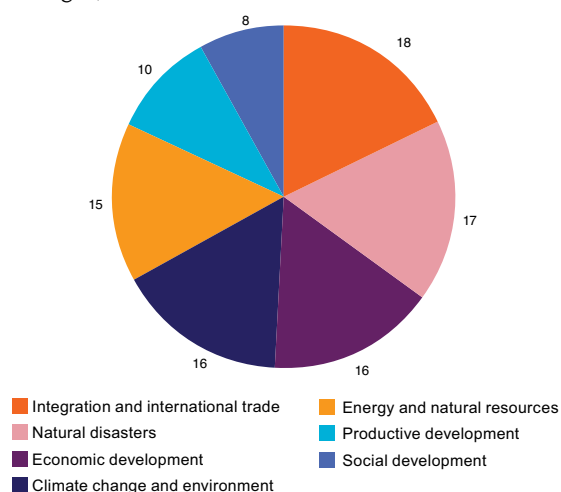
"ECLAC has provided valuable support for change management in El Salvador and has responded to our requests in a timely manner with high-level technical assistance. The outcomes of this cooperation have enabled us to improve decision-making with regard to very important public policies. This has been the case with the Commission's ongoing advice on institutional strengthening of the Technical Secretariat of the Presidency, especially in the preparation of our five-year development plan and the design of the national planning system; the regional assessment of the impact of the rains which was used as an input for the Presidential Summit of the Central American Integration System, chaired by El Salvador; and the technical support provided for positioning El Salvador in climate change forums."

Alexander Segovia, Technical Secretary of the Presidency of El Salvador.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKING

Figure 11

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



With expert assistance from ECLAC, eight countries⁵⁰ have strengthened their technical capacities in the areas of trade, integration and sustainable development; and those same countries plus Colombia strengthened their skills for assessing the economic, social and environmental

impacts of natural disasters and formulating risk reduction strategies. ECLAC provided technical assistance to Haiti in the aftermath of the massive earthquake of 2010, for post-disaster needs assessment and the formulation of short-term recovery plans. Technical assistance was provided in the same field to seven other countries: five in Central America plus Mexico and Colombia. Two countries, Guatemala and El Salvador, incorporated ECLAC technical recommendations into the design of export incentives for the post-2011 period. Over 85% of respondents to assessment surveys rated the workshops organized by ECLAC as useful or very useful for economic and social policymaking, trade, integration and sustainable development.

During the past two years, ECLAC has continued to address requests from countries of the region on economic development issues, strengthening their capacities and recommending policies. At the request of the Minister of Finance of Costa Rica, ECLAC rendered key technical assistance to the country's Government to identify the fundamental macroeconomic constraints and challenges—in terms of growth and distribution—that must be taken into account in the preparation of its national investment programme.

At the request of the ministries of finance and economic affairs of the subregion, as well as Central American intergovernmental committees and councils, a strategic

⁵⁰ Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua.

vision document on a Plan for investment and financing for Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (PIFCARD) was completed and discussed with the ministers of finance in 2010. During the twenty-fourth meeting of the Council of Treasure and Finance Ministers (COSEFIN), held in Santo Domingo on 3-4 February 2011, the ministers of finance agreed to promote PIFCARD and the efforts of the vice ministers working group, with the support of the inter-agency group coordinated by ECLAC in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration. In the same context, technical support was provided to the Governments in the formulation of regional projects, in coordination with the inter-agency group, to promote progress in the portfolio of trade facilitation projects, with special emphasis on transport and energy.

Major technical cooperation assistance has been provided to Haiti in the last two years. During February and March 2010, a post-disaster needs assessment document was prepared, including a sectoral assessment of damages, losses and needs. Technical support was provided for the infrastructure sector, including governmental and communistic infrastructures, energy, transportation, housing and human settlements, as well as for data recovery from all sectors for the development of damage and loss tables. ECLAC presented a preliminary short version of the needs assessment at the workshop held in Santo Domingo on 16-17 March 2010.

In late March 2010, ECLAC provided technical advice on the short-term recovery and long-term reconstruction of Haiti during the meeting of the Haitian Diaspora Forum held in Washington, D.C. At this Forum, ECLAC contributed to a strategic plan for reconstruction and development in Haiti and to the final drafting of the main conclusions and recommendations from all working groups. The final summary document was presented by representatives of the Haitian diaspora to the donor conference held in New York on 31 March 2010.

The Haitian Institute for Statistics (IHSI) approached ECLAC in October 2010 to request technical assistance for building a monthly indicator of economic activity. ECLAC contacted the National Institute for Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico with the aim of furthering South-South

cooperation and jointly providing state-of-the-art technical support to IHSI to develop and apply the methodology for the requested indicator. An ECLAC-INEGI joint exploratory mission took place in Haiti in September 2011, in order to establish a 2012 roadmap of the project's activities and achievements. During this mission, stakeholder interest in the initiative was clearly signalled by a meeting with the Minister of Economics and Finance of Haiti and the attendance of different public and private targeted institutions at round table events. The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico promoted and backed attendance of representatives from IHSI at the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (November 2011, Dominican Republic) to present Haiti's most critical short- and medium-term statistical challenges and to gather regional support.

The Commission retained its pivotal role in the Regional Inter-agency Task Force for the Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Mexico in 2009-2010, and actively led work to establish a national observatory on maternal mortality as a technical cooperation activity provided upon request of the Ministry of Health of Mexico.

On the issues of energy and natural resources, the ministers of energy of the Central American countries requested ECLAC to provide support for implementing the Central American Sustainable Energy Strategy 2020 (CASES 2020), taking into account the energy-related impacts of climate change. The Strategy, for which ECLAC prepared baseline studies, includes actions relating to energy development and integration in key areas and promotes the use of clean and efficient woodstoves in rural areas. The ECLAC regional proposal to this effect was approved by the energy and environment ministries.

During 2011 ECLAC carried out a study and prepared a proposal to reduce sulphur in transportation diesel fuels, which showed that the costs of sulphur reduction are affordable and are dwarfed by the benefits. The study was endorsed by the ministers of environment and energy. A specialized group was set up within the Central American Integration System to update the regional standards on diesel. In addition, the Central American countries used ECLAC methodology and studies for evaluating oil supply chain margins, to improve performance in the importation, transportation and marketing of petroleum products.

From 25 October to 19 November 2011, a team of six experts from the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico and the headquarters in Santiago provided technical assistance to the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua on the evaluation of the economic, social and environmental damages and losses resulting from Tropical Depression 12-E. The results of the regional evaluation of damages and losses caused by the recent rains and floods in Central America were presented on 23 November 2011 at the request of the Government of El Salvador and on 1 December at the request of the Secretary General of the Central American Integration System. Both events were held in San Salvador. The final regional evaluation report was presented at the meeting of the Consultative Group for the Reconstruction and Transformation of Central America held on 16 December in San Salvador. On the same issue, the presidents of the five countries held an emergency summit in October 2011 and convened a consultative group to provide assistance to the countries in their reconstruction efforts. The consultative process and information gathering activities were carried out within the framework of assistance from ECLAC with the damage and loss assessment.

On the issues of international trade, industry and competition, ECLAC acted as focal point in the Interinstitutional Technical Group of the Mesoamerica Project. This role has enabled ECLAC to give technical advice regarding initiatives of the Project and their merits for inclusion in the project portfolio, in response to requests from the countries of the subregion. Participation in this group also facilitated the establishment of a matrix of technical cooperation between ECLAC and the Mesoamerica Project in the area of transport. The Commission's participation in meetings of the Executive Committee, ad-hoc groups and the Interinstitutional Technical Group of the Mesoamerica Project also fostered technical cooperation by ECLAC in the Mesoamerican Strategy for Environmental Sustainability (EMSA) and in the Mesoamerican Information Highway (AMI). The Commission's involvement with the Interinstitutional Technical Group and its technical cooperation in the area of transport were recognized in the Cartagena Declaration adopted at the XII Summit of Heads of States and Government of countries members of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination.

The Secretariat of Central American Tourism Integration (SITCA) requested ECLAC to provide technical support under the subprogramme on tourism and climate change

in Central America (both presenting the paper written during 2009 on this topic and helping to prepare the tourism and climate change commitment declaration by the ministers of tourism).

In September 2010, ECLAC provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food of Guatemala on the effects of climate change on agriculture, with a seminar on Effects of climate change on agriculture in Guatemala, attended by the Minister and 60 professionals from the public, academic and private sectors. A workshop held afterwards on the methodology used was attended by 20 professionals. In July 2011, technical assistance was given to the Central American Agricultural Council, at its request, to present and discuss the estimated effects and costs of climate change on agriculture in the subregion.

Lastly, during the biennium contributions were made in the field of disaster assessment. In particular, at the request of the Governments of El Salvador and Guatemala, ECLAC provided technical assistance for evaluating the economic, social and environmental impacts of the eruption of the Pacaya Volcano and Hurricane Agatha. In addition, advisory services were provided to the Government of Colombia for evaluating the economic, social and environmental impacts of the flooding in the country during the first quarter of 2010. Specifically, ECLAC coordinated evaluation of the impact on the main components of the social sector: housing, health, education, cultural heritage, sports and urban infrastructure, including water and sanitation.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

The current situation puts economic and social progress and advances in the Millennium Development Goals at risk, and Governments will need to step up the remedial action they have already been undertaking. This presents an opportunity for the countries of the subregion to continue their efforts to deepen the integration process and strengthen their capacities to put in place countercyclical policies to face the downturn of the international economy. Increasing fiscal revenue continues to be one of the main challenges of the subregion, which is characterized by structurally low tax burdens, an extensive exemptions regime and trade liberalization. Fiscal covenants must be strengthened to ensure that public resources are augmented and used more efficiently, and produce redistributive effects to reduce

poverty and inequalities, in particular among women, indigenous peoples and other ethnic groups.

The impact of high oil prices is a major concern for nine of the ten countries in the subregion. ECLAC will continue to support countries in energy cooperation initiatives to improve the conditions of oil supply, including diversification of energy mix, to promote renewable sources and energy efficiency, and to provide incentives for a transition to a low-carbon economy.

Through its analytical work and public policy recommendations, the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico will strive to strengthen the countries' capacity

to formulate strategies and policies leading to the achievement of their national development objectives, and to promote subregional and regional cooperation. It will focus on the generation, dissemination and application of innovative and sound approaches to tackling the development challenges of the subregion. Work under the subprogramme will be based on multisectoral and interdisciplinary analysis in close collaboration with national stakeholders and regional integration institutions in order to strengthen their capacities through the provision of advisory services, training and internships, and the organization and promotion of forums to facilitate policy dialogue and the exchange of best practices and lessons learned within these countries and in other regions.



Diane Quarless
*Chief of the ECLAC subregional
 headquarters for the Caribbean*

SUBPROGRAMME 12

SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

The world economy which emerged from the economic crisis of 2008-2009 has been very different from the one that prevailed until then, with average world economic growth much slower than it was during the boom years of 2002-2007. The new international environment is posing significant challenges for the Caribbean, in which the fundamental issue for Caribbean policymaking is to define a path of economic restructuring that can create a diversified and growing economy with equity and environmental protection.

During the biennium 2010-2011, the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean contributed to strengthening the capacity of policymakers and other ECLAC stakeholders to formulate and implement economic and social development measures and to improving opportunities for integration in the Caribbean as well as between the Caribbean and the wider Latin American region. Six countries⁵¹ are at various stages of formulating or adopting policies and measures in line with ECLAC recommendations, among which are the establishment of gender policies, the development of databases to disseminate statistical results, the adoption of sophisticated measures for conducting Country Poverty Assessments, and use of the methodology for developing environmental indicators to address other areas of the Millennium Development Goals. A number of countries⁵² also adopted seven policies or programmes that enhance their capacity and technical expertise to follow up on the major international programmes of action in the economic, social and environmental fields.

At its twenty-third session, the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) reviewed the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy and considered the progress in the Caribbean toward the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in preparation for the high-level meetings at the 65th session of the General Assembly. One of the significant outcomes of these high-level meetings was recognition of the importance of climate change to the small islands of the Caribbean subregion and the need for action to address the associated risks.

Developments in the world economy, including falls in international trade, tourist arrivals, remittances, foreign direct investment and other forms of external financing, have all negatively affected the small open economies of the Caribbean, and this has reduced the fiscal space and capacity of the subregion to employ countercyclical measures. Accordingly, work under the subprogramme continued to emphasize prudent fiscal and other policy responses while suggesting ways to enhance medium-term growth.

⁵¹ Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Belize, Cayman Islands, Grenada and Saint Lucia.

⁵² Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

THE CONTEXT IN THE SUBREGION

Economic performance in the Caribbean has been uneven, despite the continuing recovery of the global economy from the recent recession. While the Latin American and Caribbean region as a whole has done remarkably well, posting a growth rate of 6.1% in 2010 and an anticipated 4.7% in 2011, the Caribbean subregion has been lagging behind. The pace of recovery has been moving at two distinct speeds, with countries in the category of “most developed countries”⁵³ generally performing better than countries of the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU).⁵⁴ In 2010, economic growth in the most developed countries as a group was 1.5%, as against a fall of 1.7% in ECCU —though this was much less than the 6.2% decline in 2009. Growth in the most developed countries has been driven by Belize, Guyana, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago, which benefited from elevated commodity prices.

This new international situation is even more challenging given the need to set targets for adapting to and mitigating the already visible impacts of climate change. Caribbean States are extremely vulnerable to the vagaries of climate change as most of their infrastructure and income-generating activities are situated in coastal areas. Increased temperature, changes in precipitation and sea level rise are expected to result in inundation of coastal areas, damage to coastal, marine and agricultural resources, and decreased resilience to extreme events. Damage to tourism, health and agriculture may significantly impact the GDP of Caribbean States, resulting in a reduction in the availability of financial resources for development as well as a lower standard of living accompanied by social inequity.

Although several of the Caribbean States have medium to high human development rankings, poverty remains significant in the subregion. This is borne out in the findings of the various Country Poverty Assessments that have been carried out across the region over the last few years. The heterogeneous nature of poverty demands ongoing response to the needs of vulnerable individuals throughout their lifetime, while recognizing

the distribution of gender inequalities across broader parameters such as ethnicity, religion, race, geographical location and educational attainment.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2010–2011

Research, analysis and dissemination

During the 2010-2011 biennium, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean supported countries of the subregion in the areas of economic and social development, trade and integration. The interest generated by the work of ECLAC is evidenced in the 393 references to its publications and data found in policy documents, academic literature and the mass media. This is illustrative of policymakers’ and academics’ greater familiarity with ECLAC subregional analysis and perspectives.

The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) held its twenty-third session at the ministerial level in St. George’s, Grenada on 17 March 2010. CDCC also held the fifteenth meeting of its Monitoring Committee in Port of Spain on 12 September 2011, and discussed progress in implementation of the 2010-2011 biennium work programme of the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and the role of ECLAC in the subregion. As part of its ongoing capacity-building efforts in the Caribbean, ECLAC played a role in providing member States with skills to: (i) develop targeted and effective trade strategies; (ii) analyse and develop socially inclusive policies and programmes, particularly for persons with disabilities; (iii) store, retrieve and manipulate poverty and social data; and (iv) measure sectoral damage and loss in the wake of natural disasters. The meeting concluded that the subregion faces many challenges, and that there is a need for enhanced collaboration to find solutions to them. In this regard, the meeting affirmed that ECLAC has been and will continue to be a vital partner in the quest for such solutions.

Pursuant to CDCC Resolution 73 (XXIII), the first Caribbean Development Round Table, a forum for development experts to examine new approaches and challenges to the sustainable development of small developing countries, was convened on 13 September 2011. The meeting examined how the Caribbean could develop new policies and strategies to meet old and new challenges related to growth, social equity, vulnerability and environmental sustainability in small economies. A total of 19

⁵³ The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

⁵⁴ Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Anguilla and Montserrat are associate members of ECLAC.

recommendations emerged from the meeting. In a survey of the 29 participants (15 women), 24 rated the round table overall as excellent or good, while 24 gave this rating to the meeting's substantive content.

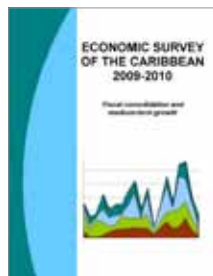
In the context of efforts under the subprogramme to advocate prudent fiscal and other policy responses to developments in the global economy, while suggesting ways to advance medium-term growth, the annual *Economic Survey of the Caribbean* provided policymakers with an in-depth analysis of economic performance of the subregion, and advanced recommendations for policy change. *Preliminary Overview of the Caribbean Economies* advised policymakers on the impact the international environment was expected to have on the subregion in the year ahead.

In addition, ECLAC, with the support of the French Development Agency (AFD), undertook the first phase of a study entitled Review of selected areas of research on the Caribbean subregion in the 2000s: identifying the main gaps. The study, published in October 2011, was presented in four sections: economic research, social and cultural research, environmental research and international relations research. It highlighted the key institutions driving the research and the main outcomes of the publications, and identified the main research gaps which could be explored to achieve a better understanding of the Caribbean. The second phase of the study started in October 2011 and seeks to enhance the French Development Agency's understanding of the panorama of the Caribbean subregion and to redesign its focus there.

Climate change and energy efficiency continued to be areas of importance in the subregion. In this regard, work was done under the subprogramme with ECLAC headquarters and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in convening a meeting, which complemented the work of the Caribbean Community in raising awareness of the contribution of energy efficient practices in addressing climate change. Collaborating again with ECLAC headquarters, support was provided under the subprogramme for a study of mechanisms to improve energy efficiency in key sectors of Jamaica. The Government of Jamaica has indicated that it plans to implement the recommendations made in the report.

The five-year Caribbean regional review meeting of the Mauritius Strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development

Economic Survey of the Caribbean, 2010–2011: Improving economic prospects amid global recovery



This publication provides an overview of the economic performance of countries of the Caribbean Community for 2009 and their outlook for 2010. The survey found that medium-term prospects for the Caribbean will depend on the speed of the global recovery and the extent

to which pressures for fiscal consolidation at home dampen further injections into the economy. The study puts forward three recommendations that may help address some of the difficulties Caribbean economies now face.

"[...] I would like to congratulate ECLAC on this initiative [the Caribbean Development Round Table]. To date, ECLAC has had an enviable tradition. We in the Caribbean have joined in this effort to shape the development strategy of Latin America. So, this conference is taking place in my view —not only at an appropriate time— but at a necessary time, for we cannot exclude the need to find a new direction in different areas of economic ties and use this opportunity to work with existing institutions in order to shape the responses for the Caribbean."

Winston Dookeran, Minister of Finance of Trinidad and Tobago, at the Caribbean Development Round Table, 13 September 2011.

of Small Island Developing States⁵⁵ (MSI+5) was held in St. George's on 16 and 18 March 2010. The MSI+5 report highlighted progress made in the thematic areas of the Mauritius Strategy which were agreed upon by member States in January 2005. The meeting discussed a draft Caribbean synthesis report on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy, which had been prepared by ECLAC, highlighted the progress made in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy, and made recommendations for addressing challenges in meeting the goals agreed upon in

⁵⁵ http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/Mauritius_Strategy_Inserts.pdf.

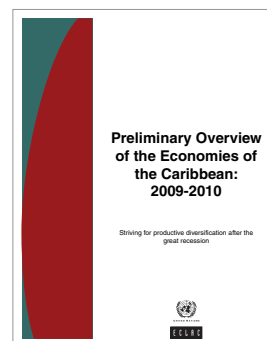
the Strategy. ECLAC also provided support to Caribbean small island developing States (SIDS) in monitoring progress towards the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy during the biennium, resulting in their participation in the review process and in their contribution to the final outcome document.

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean convened a number of workshops contributing to the development of statistical capacity in key areas. Two regional workshops were held as a result of partnerships with the World Bank, the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). The Regional workshop on microdata documentation and dissemination, which was held in April 2010, provided training to member States on the Microdata Management Toolkit (20 participants, including 11 women). The Regional seminar on data warehousing and dissemination, which was held in November 2010, was aimed at exposing key persons (statisticians and relevant professionals) from borrowing member countries⁵⁶ (BMCs) of the Caribbean Development Bank to the methods and facilities available in the region for the storage, retrieval and manipulation of poverty and social data. Of the 21 participants (eight women), 95% rated the workshop as good or excellent. The REDATAM+SP national workshop in database creation and analysis was convened in December 2010 in response to a request for technical assistance from the Government of Grenada to improve its statistical capacity in the use of the REDATAM software. Of the 13 participants (six women), 84.5% rated the training as good or excellent. On the International Comparison Programme, one regional workshop each on national accounts, price statistics, and price collection, validation and processing, enabled 64 technical staff (51 women) from 21 countries⁵⁷ to build their knowledge in these areas.

⁵⁶ Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

⁵⁷ Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean 2009–2010



The most recent edition of this annual publication analyses the impacts of the economic crisis of 2008–2009, which was especially severe in the Caribbean. For Latin America and the Caribbean as a whole, economic growth rate is anticipated to be 5.9%; however, the Caribbean will grow much more slowly. While the prospects for growth in the Caribbean are better in 2010 and 2011 relative to 2009, for a number of countries the recovery will be slow.

The subregional headquarters also provided national statistical offices with critical tools in advance of the 2010–2011 round of population and housing census through a regional workshop on REDATAM for data dissemination (development of xPlan and webserver modules). Of the 18 participants (six women), 10 (55.6%) rated the overall training as excellent while the remaining eight (55.5%) rated it as good. Fourteen (77.8%) stated that the training was very relevant and useful to their work and four (22.2%) stated it was relevant. Two national workshops, on REDATAM and on the Census Survey Processing System (CSPro) software, were also conducted in Grenada on 6–10 December 2010 and 15–25 August 2011, respectively. Eleven (84.5%) of the 13 participants (seven women) in the REDATAM workshop rated its overall quality as excellent or good, and the same number indicated that the training was relevant or highly relevant to their work. Of the 14 participants (seven women) from the CSPro training, 12 (six women) responded to the evaluation survey. Ten (83%) rated the overall quality of the workshop as good or very good, while nine (75%) felt the training was relevant or highly relevant to their needs.

In the social development area, and in light of international commitments to eradicate violence against women, the subprogramme convened and provided substantive servicing of events which addressed the issue. These included the hosting of an expert group meeting in collaboration with UN-Women on Good practices in national action plans on violence against women, held on

13-15 September 2010 in Port of Spain, and a regional seminar in collaboration with the ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs on The use of administrative records to measure violence against women in the Caribbean, held from 30 November – 1 December 2010 in Port of Spain. The outcomes of this seminar were: (i) agreement for institutional cooperation to organize a harmonized uniformed system of data collection and surveillance of violence against women that would help to identify the route followed by such violations in the national health and justice systems; and (ii) strengthening of national and subregional networks for the exchange of best practices in data collection and policies on violence against women in the Caribbean countries and building of a subregional virtual community of knowledge. A subregional meeting on the topic of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean and a second meeting on enhancing the capacity of Caribbean countries to eradicate violence against women were held on 14 and 15 June 2010, respectively, in Castries.

A regional workshop entitled Implementation of the convention of the rights of persons with disabilities in the Caribbean, was held on 9-10 November 2010 in Port of Spain, and allowed participants to review the principles and concepts underlying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to consider their own national experience, and to begin a process of analysis of their policies and programmes from a disability perspective. It also sought to raise awareness among participants of the importance of comprehensive and socially-inclusive policies, particularly for persons with disabilities. Of the 20 participants (15 women), 77% rated the training as very good or excellent, while 89% rated the relevance of the training as very good or excellent.

Also contributing to social development was the preparation of the *Caribbean Millennium Development Goals Report 2010*, which provided an assessment of achievements and constraints in the countries' efforts to accomplish the Goals. All United Nations country teams covering the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean (Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States) participated in this endeavour. Within this framework, two countries (Guyana and Suriname) have produced national reports on the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

Studies on the knowledge economy and knowledge management in the public sector were undertaken during the biennium, and were vetted by expert group meetings. The study on the knowledge economy explored the status of the knowledge economy in the Caribbean, analysed the regional situation with regard to measurement of the knowledge economy and the development of information and communications technology (ICT) policies and strategies in the subregion, and presented a set of recommendations to guide the development of ICT and the knowledge economy in the Caribbean. The study on knowledge management in the public sector suggested that the Caribbean public sector can move towards achieving some knowledge capture, retention and knowledge-sharing goals, and recommended using existing Internet technologies to create an online presence. At Regional consultation on information and knowledge management for economic development in the CARICOM region, held in Bridgetown in 2011, ECLAC demonstrated a simple-to-use but effective checklist for public sector and regional organizations to review and consider how their online presence can become an effective knowledge management tool.

These studies served to enable policymakers to identify gaps in data coverage and utilize available ICT statistics and indicators to improve the contribution of ICT to economic development, and also identified good practices and initiatives for government ministries and agencies to implement in their efforts to foster sustainable development.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

During the biennium 2010-2011, as a result of technical support provided to countries of the subregion, at least eight countries have reported significant progress in integrating follow-up measures to the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy into their national plans.⁵⁸ In addition, authorities from the Governments of five countries⁵⁹ and from three

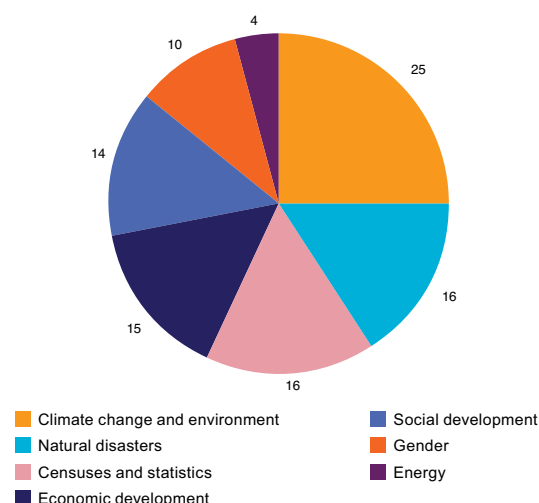
⁵⁸ Three countries (Guyana, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago) have included all thematic areas of the Mauritius Strategy in their national plans, while Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada and Saint Kitts and Nevis included eight of the ten thematic areas. Guyana and Suriname have produced national reports on the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

⁵⁹ Belize, Cayman Islands, Haiti, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

intergovernmental institutions (Caribbean Disaster Management Agency, Caribbean Development Bank, and Organization of Eastern Caribbean States) increased their technical and policymaking capacities to reach sustainable development goals through ECLAC advisory missions to assess the socioeconomic impact of natural disasters, support the formulation of recovery plans and design risk management strategies.

Figure 12

Technical assistance missions
(Percentages)



In the social development area, the subprogramme convened two regional and four national workshops on the collection, processing and analysis of data used to measure Caribbean countries' progress toward achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. These workshops were instrumental in allowing 112 technical staff (58 female) from 18 countries⁶⁰ to increase their knowledge in these areas. Antigua and Barbuda is establishing a gender policy based on the recommendations from one of the workshops, while Saint Lucia has used the methodology for developing environmental indicators to address other areas of the Millennium Development Goals and to facilitate inter-ministerial coordination.

⁶⁰ Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

Technical assistance related to natural disasters

Macro-socioeconomic assessments of the damage caused by Hurricane Tomas were conducted for Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The assessments provided sectoral estimates of damage and losses and made recommendations for rehabilitation and reconstruction over the short, medium and long terms. Notably, the assessments were used by the Governments of these countries to approach donors for reconstruction and rehabilitation resources. The DaLA methodology was also employed to assess the macro-socioeconomic effects of the events in the Western Kingston area of Jamaica over the period 22 May–7 June 2010.

The regional training workshop on the construction of core environmental indicators for the Caribbean (MDG7) was designed to put into practice methodological and statistical concepts and methods. The main result of this training workshop has been to improve the technical, statistical and inter-agency coordinating capacities of participants within the environmental statistics domain of participating countries. Evaluation by the participants indicated that the training contributed to strengthening their capacity for the production of indicators. Of the 29 participants (16 women), 96% rated the training as good or excellent.

ECLAC, as secretariat to the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, conducted the third meeting of that Committee in April 2011. Inputs were made by member States for the Committee's draft work programme for 2012-2013. This meeting served to strengthen ECLAC collaboration with the Small Island Development States (SIDS) Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, resulting in Caribbean SIDS having greater knowledge of global action in relation to the Mauritius Strategy and increasing their cooperation.

Through the Caribbean Risk Management Initiative-United Nations Development Programme project Promoting cooperation among small island developing States, ECLAC has been able to disseminate the Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) methodology among disaster managers across the Asia-Pacific region. Seventy-seven technical staff

Climate change

Technical support in the area of climate change was given in the framework of phase II of the project Review of the Economics of Climate Change (RECC), funded by the Department for International Development of the Government of the United Kingdom. Twenty-six national sectoral studies in 14 countries⁶¹ were organized, projecting the impact of climate change until 2050. The results of these studies and the process of forecasting the impacts were shared via workshops held in each participating country. A summary report, encompassing the results of all the studies, was prepared and launched in late September 2011. Three media interviews were held, at which the results of the RECC and their relevance in informing policy were discussed in order to raise public awareness. In addition, the project Understanding potential economic impacts of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean, funded by the United Nations Development Account, was completed during the biennium; this project complements the RECC and focuses on sharing results in expert group meetings. The outcomes of these projects were used to prepare a policy brief on the impacts of climate change on the agriculture sector upon request from the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Governments of Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago indicated that the recommendations and decisions of the third Expert group meeting on understanding the potential economic impacts of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean, hosted by the ECLAC subregional headquarters on 30 June 2011, will support the finalization of their draft climate change policies, while the Government of Saint Lucia will update its policy on the basis of the recommendations. Also under the Development Account project, the results of the national sectoral studies were transferred into a macroeconomic modelling framework and a workshop was held on 5 and 6 December 2011 at ECLAC subregional headquarters in Port of Spain.

from at least five countries⁶² increased their methodological knowledge and technical capacity to measure the damage and losses related to natural disasters at the sector level, or to design and implement national and subnational preventive or emergency measures, through their participation in four training workshops organized by ECLAC.

In the area of statistics, six workshops (three regional and three national) were successfully convened under the subprogramme, with the purpose of developing statistical capacity in some critical areas and providing national statistical offices with key tools ahead of the 2010-2011 round of population and housing censuses. As a result, four countries —Aruba, Belize, Cayman Islands and Saint Lucia— developed databases to facilitate dissemination of census survey results and support policymaking. The National Statistical Office of Grenada was able to provide a census database for its users while protecting the confidentiality of its microdata sets, and used data from its Country Poverty Assessment (CPA) to inform policy and programmes. Saint Lucia has adopted more sophisticated measures for conducting its CPAs, which is influencing its anti-poverty policy and programming.

A number of technical missions were undertaken, and technical support provided, to the Governments of Suriname, Dominica and Saint Kitts and Nevis in the area of gender mainstreaming. Technical support was also provided to the Government of Belize for conducting census surveys. Belize's Ministry of Agriculture sought technical assistance from ECLAC to conduct an agricultural census survey in 2011. In this case, the main objective of the assistance was to assess the country's agricultural production and thereafter to establish an agricultural information system to facilitate regular reporting on agricultural and food production. ECLAC advised and made recommendations on the logistical field operations, reviewed and advised on the quality of the data collected and proposed a plan for the successful completion of the census inclusive of data dissemination. The Government has indicated that it is currently finalizing the cleaning of the census database after which a report on the main results will be completed and disseminated.

⁶¹ Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Curacao, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands.

⁶² Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and several countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

LESSONS LEARNED AND OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean will provide effective policy guidance to member countries and reorient its priorities to better respond to the evolving economic, social and environmental processes. In this regard, it will continue to focus on strengthening the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, a subsidiary body of ECLAC, as a forum for political engagement and consultation among member States, as it relates to support for the Caribbean at the subregional level. This will be achieved through the provision of technical secretariat services and support for the follow-up and fulfilment of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and in facilitating the engagement of member countries in the follow-up to global conferences. It is also proposed to strengthen the Caribbean Development Round Table under the subprogramme, as a means to institutionalize a forum for exchange of ideas on innovative solutions to development challenges faced by the subregion.

Comprehensive frameworks will be established under the subprogramme for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on progress made and gaps in the achievement of the

Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals. This effort will be supported by the conduct of surveys on types of knowledge and knowledge capture, targeting development agencies and stakeholders in the region who have direct experience with accessing and sharing information and knowledge. In addition, this would serve to foster appropriate knowledge management practices in the subregion.

Moreover, priority will be given to the development of frameworks for modelling and projections and to facilitating monitoring and implementation of trade flows and economic and social development, with special emphasis on projecting and costing the impacts of climate change and the development of a prototype model for projecting such impacts. Further, emphasis will also be placed on strengthening national and regional capacities for monitoring and reporting progress, fostering evidence-based social policy formulation, and supporting cooperation and coordination with other subregional institutions to deliver services and analysis for the Caribbean countries in a coherent manner. Priority will also be given to exploring mechanisms for wider consultations with Latin America in order to highlight the opportunities for increasing trade, investment, technical cooperation and integration with the Caribbean, such as the technical cooperation agreement agreed between Brazil and the Caribbean Community.



NATIONAL OFFICES

The ECLAC national offices were established to enhance the identification and analysis of the region's development-related problems and to support some governments more closely. The Commission maintains national offices in Bogotá, Brasília, Buenos Aires and Montevideo and a liaison office in Washington, D.C.

ECLAC OFFICE IN BOGOTÁ

During 2010-2011, the ECLAC office in Bogotá continued to strengthen capacities of the countries in the region in three main areas: (i) poverty and living conditions; (ii) social protection; and (iii) competitiveness. In addition, at the request of the Government of Colombia, the office supported the preparation of the country's national development plan 2010-2014, strengthening the Government's proposal with the principles and guidelines set forth in ECLAC documents. Likewise, the Government requested ECLAC to provide technical cooperation to assess damage and losses arising from the severe cold weather conditions, which peaked at the end of 2010 and the first half of 2011.

With regard to poverty and living conditions, the office was invited to join the team working on splicing the employment, poverty and inequality series (MESEP), together with ECLAC headquarters, the World Bank, and Colombia's National Planning Department (DNP) and National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), which proposed a new methodology for measuring monetary poverty in Colombia to the Government. This team worked during 2010 and 2011 and the outputs of this

initiative have been presented in two international and two national seminars, attended by more than 250 participants including government officials, journalists, academics and experts. Also in this field, progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and indicators was reviewed jointly with other 22 other United Nations agencies operating in Colombia.⁶³ This exercise was used as the basis for the preparation and adoption of a policy document,⁶⁴ which proposes a set of actions targeting the poorer and more vulnerable population and disadvantaged regions. The policies were then integrated as specific goals in the new national development plan.

⁶³ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organization (ILO) (non-resident agency), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (non-resident agency), United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (non-resident agency), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Information Centres (UNIC), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (non-resident agency), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Volunteers (UNV), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WTO)/ Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

⁶⁴ Documento Conpes Social 140 "Modificación a Conpes Social 91 del 14 de Junio de 2005: "Metas y Estrategias de Colombia para el logro de los ODM 2015" 28 March 2011.

The office participated in various forums held to produce diagnoses of social issues for application in policies and programmes. In the case of the conditional cash transfers programme, the Rural Dialogue Group invited the office to share with authorities and officials their analyses of the policy's impact with the aim of improving the programme's formulation, implementation and management in rural areas.

In the health sector, the office has participated in several seminars and workshops aimed at proposing alternatives for financing packages of health benefits, including a seminar held by the pharmaceutical industry (attended by almost 200 experts) to evaluate policy options for a new health reform.

The office also prepared and published a document on lessons arising from the Colombian health reform—especially in terms of difficulties encountered in the construction of legitimacy. With the support of the Financing for Development Division of ECLAC headquarters, the office took part in the discussions on viable scenarios for universal coverage of a larger health benefits package, in which it helped to identify the resources needed. One important meeting, entitled *Confianza: Garantía del Derecho a la Salud* was organized in Santa Marta (Colombia) on 30 November – 1 December 2011, jointly with Gestar Salud, a Colombian health insurance management association. The purpose of the meeting, which was attended by 300 participants and representatives of the health sector, was to examine the main factors that have undermined confidence in the Colombian health system and the tensions generated by its universal coverage, package of services and financing sources, among other factors.

Regarding competitiveness, the office prepared two documents: a new updated and renewed version of *Escalafón de Competitividad Departamental*, which includes disaggregated results for six factors: strength of the economy, human capital, infrastructure, science and technology, and public finance and management. The second document in this area is a study of the experience of three Colombian departments in regional and local development policies. The results were used to produce competitive profiles and improve local development policies, including the regional development orientation contained in the national development plan 2010-2014.

Since December 2010, at the request of the Government of Colombia, ECLAC has coordinated evaluation of the

economic impact of the damages and losses generated by the flooding between December 2010 and June 2011. This evaluation was crucial for formulating the programme of humanitarian aid, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and for the redistribution of resources and rethinking of prevention strategies.

ECLAC OFFICE IN BRASILIA

In 2010-2011, the ECLAC office in Brasilia maintained its research and capacity-building programmes with Brazilian institutions. It continued its principal partnership with Brazil's Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA) in the pursuit of research, workshops and publications on the Brazilian economy and international experiences, as part of a major project under way in the Institute to study Brazil's main development axes. In 2010 a joint publication series called *Textos para Discussão IPEA-CEPAL* was launched with an initial corpus of 45 articles. The office also participated in the annual National Conference on Development (CODE) promoted by IPEA in 2010 and 2011, which had over 1,000 participants each year. All these activities aim to provide technical support for policymakers in Brazil in, for example, public policy formulation and evaluation, poverty reduction programmes, and support for productive sectors. They also aim to foster general debate on development policies by other researchers, universities and civil society in general.

In 2010 and 2011, together with IPEA, the office promoted the creation and the annual meeting of the Economic Development Teaching Network, which convenes Brazilian universities and professors teaching development courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The Network's objective is to provide material, such as bibliography and study programmes, to maintain and foster the study of development from a structural perspective. Each annual meeting drew over 40 professors from more than 20 different universities. Also, the office again took part in the yearly national meeting of ANPEC, Brazil's association of graduate programmes in economics.

In 2011, the office started cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Technology of Brazil to carry out a capacity-building programme for managers of science, technology and innovation projects. These one-week courses presented the foundations and challenges for the preparation, management and evaluation of projects and

Support for conferences

In 2010 the ECLAC office in Brasilia gave support for the organization of two major ECLAC conferences and maintained close contact with Brazilian counterparts, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Secretary of the Presidency on Policies for Women. In June 2010, it contributed to the organization of the thirty-third session of ECLAC and in July to the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. These events together brought over 1,000 participants, including representatives of Governments of member States, civil society and international experts.

targeted South American countries engaged in building their national systems and Brazilian states whose public sectors have less experience in this field. In 2011, the office carried out seven of these courses, in four South American countries —Colombia, Ecuador, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)— and in the Brazilian state of Goiás, with a total attendance of over 200 managers. The participants have rated the courses very highly and institutional counterparts have indicated their wish to continue cooperation activities in this field.

The office, with the collaboration of IPEA and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), provided technical assistance to the Government of Brazil to evaluate the programme aimed at combatting deforestation in the Amazon region. In this context, staff from the office participated in a workshop of experts from other countries in the region and from Indonesia, who shared their experience in fighting deforestation in tropical areas. The evaluation praised the achievements of the Brazilian deforestation programme and the technical and political coordination involved, which engaged all levels of government (federal, state and local) and outreach to civil society. It made various recommendations for the new programme cycle, including to increase efforts to regularize land titles in the region and to implement more integrated productive policies to ensure sustainable activities in forest areas.

Lastly, in 2010-2011, the ECLAC office in Brasilia concluded its participation in the comparative study on development experiences carried out with the Center for Strategic Management and Studies (CGEE) of Brazil. A final

publication on the study, which covers 14 selected countries in Latin America and Asia and the Russian Federation, will be available in 2012. The office also continued to promote collaboration with other United Nations agencies in Brazil, including the annual dissemination of the reports of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

ECLAC OFFICE IN BUENOS AIRES

During the biennium, both the work programme of the ECLAC office in Buenos Aires and all the office's activities included cooperation with the national Government and the provinces, as well as joint activities with ECLAC headquarters —the office of the Executive Secretary and various ECLAC divisions— and with other agencies of the United Nations system in Argentina, and the pursuit of specific extrabudgetary projects.

In the framework of technical cooperation activities with government agencies, particularly those carried out with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, the ECLAC office in Buenos Aires participated in the preparation of technical papers such as Trends and volatility in agricultural prices: implications for Latin America and the Caribbean, which was developed by the G20 study group on commodities and presented by ECLAC at the high-level seminar on volatility in international commodity prices and the links between macroeconomic policies and employment (in the framework of G20) in May 2011. The office has also been officially coordinating ECLAC technical assistance to the Financial Integration Group and the South American Council of Economy and Finance of UNASUR, including studies on international resources management, regional payments systems and intraregional trade.

- Sixteen technical cooperation and assistance agreements were provided during the biennium.
- The office has published 15 papers and books and disseminated them widely through its website, which registered a total of 3.7 million downloads during the biennium —more than double the number registered in the previous biennium.
- Staff of the office have played a central role in 32 colloquiums, symposiums, seminars and conferences.

Collaborative efforts with the provincial governments of Chaco, Jujuy and Santa Fe

With the provincial government of Chaco, the office continued to work on developing the basic food basket plan, under the existing technical cooperation agreement. Accomplishments included the definition of a theoretical framework and the achievement of consistency in the database provided by the province (mainly the expenditure survey and consumer price index). With the Province of Jujuy, the office worked with the Foundation for Sustainable Development (FUJUDES) in analysing the economic impact of the Jujuy Tobacco Growers Cooperative and the Province's mining activities. As regards technical cooperation with the Ministry of Production in the Province of Santa Fe, the office worked with the staff of the Provincial Institute of Statistics and Censuses (IPEC) on developing a synthetic indicator of economic activity for the province (ISAE Santa Fe). The results of the model obtained were submitted to the Ministry of Economics and the Statistics and Census Institute (IPEC) in December 2011. Lastly, together with the Ministry of Production of the Province of Santa Fe, the office completed the biotechnology map of the Province.

The office also carried out technical cooperation activities with the Ministry of Industry in developing guidelines for Argentina's Industrial Strategic Planning 2020. The ECLAC technical cooperation provided analytical and methodological elements which helped to identify critical nodes for each of the productive chains around which various discussion meetings were organized.

Similarly, under the agreement signed between ECLAC and the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, the office carried out a technical assistance work for the Undersecretary of Technical Programming and Labour Studies on wage policy and its macroeconomic impact, which included organizing an internal seminar. The results were input into the tenth edition of the Ministry's study series on work, employment and jobs.

In the area of education, the office carried out a project with the Unit of Strategic Planning and Evaluation of Education in Argentina (UPEA) of the Office of the President, whose results are reflected in the publication *Desigualdades territoriales en la Argentina: insumos para el planeamiento estratégico*

del sector educativo. This study, which analyses and looks for ways to overcome inequalities among the provinces, highlights the heterogeneity of contexts within Argentina and the different explanations for these phenomena.

The office also coordinated the chapter on Argentina in *América Latina en el "Umbral del Desarrollo". Un ejercicio de convergencia productiva*, prepared under the Inclusive Development Project. The paper focuses on a number of issues related to the formulation of an inclusive development strategy for Argentina, including the macroeconomic, labour and external sectors. It stresses the need to reduce the structural heterogeneity, which is the epicentre from which inequality spreads through society, and to reduce gaps in capabilities and opportunities in order to achieve dynamic growth and inclusion.

ECLAC OFFICE IN MONTEVIDEO

During the past two years, Uruguay continued to experience significant economic growth and to expand social policies. In this context, and under the technical cooperation agreement between the ECLAC office in Montevideo and the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Government of Uruguay, the office addressed several main topics. One of these was free trade zones in Uruguay: analysis of their economic activity and foreign trade. Here, on the basis of data from a survey conducted by the National Institute of Statistics, the office developed a methodology to measure and characterize the economic activity of such area, with an emphasis on distinguishing different types of activity and stages of their development.

During the biennium, the office also developed the different stages of the multi-year research project Estimation of gross fixed capital formation, by institutional sector, type of asset and sector of the economy, together with the statistical department of the Central Bank of Uruguay and the National Institute of Statistics. The analysis led to the development of a methodology for estimating the matrix of gross fixed capital formation for several years and to the design and analysis of a survey of businesses on capital goods imports. This survey was submitted to 420 importers. The responses showed the predominance of two import divisions of the MERCOSUR common nomenclature (NCM) code, which together account for 85% of capital goods imports into Uruguay.

The office also conducted a study on the universalization of the family allowance system, together with the social policy analysis areas of the Ministry of Social Development. The study examined the fiscal cost and distributional impact of different scenarios for universalizing this social policy instrument.

As regards representation activities, interaction with the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) and the secretariat of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) included high-level seminars on challenges for broadening regional trade and integration, strategies for development with equality, and the construction of an inter-organizational agenda to contribute to integration and development in the region.

ECLAC OFFICE IN WASHINGTON

During the biennium the ECLAC office in Washington continued monitoring the evolution and development of the economy of the United States and its economic and financial relations with Latin America and the Caribbean. It also continued serving as a liaison with the Government of the United States of America, the Government of Canada and international organizations based in Washington, D.C. (including the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank Group (IBRD), IADB, OAS and PAHO).

Through its active role in the Joint Summit Working Group, the ECLAC Washington office coordinated technical inputs for the Sixth Summit of the Americas (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, April 2012). In collaboration with IDB and OAS through the Pathways Working Group, the office provided substantive support to the fourth Ministerial meeting of the Pathways to Prosperity in the Americas Initiative (Santo Domingo, October 2011). In addition to the technical inputs, the three organizations also presented the publication *Innovating, gaining market share and fostering social inclusion: success stories in the SME development*. In addition, new areas of collaboration were identified with OAS and IDB through the Tripartite Committee.

The promotion of trade in services could offer potential for export diversification, growth, job creation and innovation. In this context, the office has continued to work on trade

- The office has continued to produce the report *United States Trade Developments*.
- The Observatory of Custom Controls for United States Imports (OCAI), with over 350,000 refusal records, continued to be of growing interest to member States and general users. In addition to studies and periodic reports, in 2011 the office launched a web platform to enable online access to OCAI.
- Over the biennium, the office organized and/or participated in over 250 conferences, seminars and other events and distributed over 1,500 ECLAC documents. The monthly *CEPAL News*, now in its twenty-sixth year of publication, was distributed in electronic format to over 2,300 readers.

in health services, publishing the report *Medical tourism: a survey* (2010). In 2011, the emphasis has been on the potential effect of United States health-care reform on medical tourism in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The office provided inputs for a number of ECLAC flagships, including *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean* and for the ECLAC document *The reactions of the Governments of the Americas to the international crisis*. Through hard-copy dissemination, increased downloads and the organization of events and seminars, the office has succeeded in increasing awareness among policy stakeholders in the United States and Canada of key issues facing the region during this time of global uncertainty.

In the area of corporate social responsibility (CSR), the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. continued to work with partner institutions, such as OAS, IDB, the Young Americas Business Trust and the Andean Development Corporation, among others. The office participated in and/or organized seven workshops. In 2010, the book *Change and opportunity, corporate social responsibility as a source of competitiveness for small and medium sized companies in Latin America and the Caribbean* was completed. In the area of corporate governance, the office organized one meeting of experts and produced two publications, *Gobernanza corporativa y desarrollo de mercados de capitales en América Latina* (2010) and

Monitoring and financial analysis in the aftermath of the crisis: The United States economy

The focus in the aftermath of the financial crisis of 2008-2009 was on monitoring and analysis of economic trends and the shape of the global economic recovery.

- During the biennium the office has focused on the impact of advanced economies' weak recovery and policymaking decisions on the countries of the region and their access to external financing and international capital markets. The office has continued to prepare periodic reports on the performance of the United States economy, as well as on capital flows to the region, with a special focus on the challenges faced by small economies and possible ways to bring their perspectives to global financial discussions.

Gobernanza corporativa en el Brasil, Colombia y México: La determinación del riesgo en la emisión de instrumentos de deuda corporativa (2011). Furthermore, ECLAC strengthened the capacity of at least three countries (Chile, Mexico and Peru) on means of enhancing CSR practices and provided technical cooperation to five countries⁶⁵ in designing and promoting performance indicators for CSR and socio-environmental management in small and medium-sized enterprises.

⁶⁵ Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.



TECHNICAL COOPERATION

The Commission's programme of technical cooperation represents a vital part of its support to the member States. Technical cooperation allows ECLAC to address the needs of the region by providing:

- (i) Analysis on development issues or emerging matters faced by countries in order to inform policymaking processes; and
- (ii) Technical cooperation and relevant material for strengthening national capacities and the generation of regional public goods.

Technical cooperation projects and programmes aim to respond to member States' priorities and capacity gaps. Therefore, the Commission's normative work constitutes the basis for both its technical assistance and capacity-building activities. The virtuous circle of generating knowledge, piloting policy recommendations and systematizing their impacts, provides an important platform for knowledge-sharing and for exchanging experiences among member States.

ECLAC receives both substantive and financial support from a variety of partners and donors, including member countries, as well as from Governments of European countries. Moreover, the Commission works closely with and receives financial resources for technical cooperation purposes from the United Nations sister agencies,

international foundations, academic institutions and non-governmental organizations.

Although cooperation activities take different forms, modalities and time frames, ECLAC promotes the multi-sector and multi-year programme approach, seeking continuity and building upon past results. During the 2010-2011 biennium, two-year and three-year cooperation programmes were signed with, respectively, the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

Information-sharing and transparency is of utmost importance; therefore, technical and financial resources have been devoted to the constant updating of the website (<http://www.eclac.org/cooperation>). Furthermore, some projects have developed their own website which may be accessed through the Commission's main website (<http://www.eclac.org/>).

Expenditures on the Commission's technical cooperation programme in the biennium 2010-2011 amounted to over US\$ 40.3 million, 17% higher than in the previous biennium (US\$ 34.5 million), which reflects the growing importance of technical cooperation within the Commission's activities. The main sources of funding are shown below, followed by some examples of the impact of the funds in the region during 2010-2011.

Table 1

Sources of funding for technical cooperation activities

Source of funds	Amount (millions of United States dollars)		Percentage	
	2008-2009	2010-2011	2008-2009	2010-2011
United Nations system	13.3	15.3	39	38
Other multilateral organizations	4.3	7.9	12	20
Bilateral donors	16.9	17.1	49	42
Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean	5.2	4.7	15	11
Governments of other countries	10.0	10.6	29	26
Non-governmental organizations	1.7	1.8	5	5
Total expenditure	34.5	40.3	100	100

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

UNITED NATIONS

More than a third of the expenditures of the ECLAC technical cooperation programme in 2010-2011 was financed by the United Nations system itself. This funding comprised allocations from the General Assembly through the regular programme of technical cooperation and the United Nations Development Account.

The regular programme funds allocated to ECLAC technical cooperation added up to approximately US\$ 5.6 million for the biennium, which financed regional advisers and experts whose primary function is to provide technical cooperation on those areas prioritized in the work programme. This amount also served as seed funding for high-priority projects addressing urgent needs of the countries.⁶⁶

The Development Account has grown in magnitude in the past two bienniums. In 2010-2011 funding for the execution of activities from this source reached US\$ 3.9 million, a more than 50% increase over the previous biennium (US\$ 2.5 million). The funds allocated were devoted

⁶⁶ These projects address issues such as linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation, production and innovation, macroeconomic policies and growth, equity and social cohesion, population and development, sustainable development and human settlements, natural resources and infrastructure, statistics and economic projections, subregional activities in Mexico and Central America and subregional activities in the Caribbean.

primarily to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and strengthening the capacity of countries to design economic and social policies. Another important source of funding from the United Nations system is the agreement between the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to implement jointly some of the funds for the regional programme on population and development in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2010-2011, this funding, together with other contributions received from UNFPA, totalled US\$ 1.4 million and was used to carry out annual work plans in the various areas of action of subprogramme 6.⁶⁷

Specific agreements with other agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), accounted for an additional US\$ 1.2 million in expenditures during the 2010-2011 biennium.

Other multilateral sources

Other multilateral sources from outside the United Nations system include the European Union, the World Bank, the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The multilateral technical cooperation package for 2010-2011 amounted to US\$ 7.9 million, representing 20% of the total budget.

Among this group of sources, significant support was provided by the European Union (see table 2), including for the Alliance for the Information Society in Latin America (@LIS) and the complementary financing provided for improving knowledge and institutional capacities in the socioeconomic aspects of climate change. The European Commission has emerged as the Commission's principal source of extrabudgetary financing. Most of these funds are used to finance activities to support political dialogue between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean.

⁶⁷ More information can be found in the section on Subprogramme 6: Population and development, which is executed by CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC.

Areas addressed by projects carried out by ECLAC with funding from the Development Account

- Improving quantification of women's unpaid work in support of poverty eradication policies.
- Improving management of resource allocation for the environment in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Strengthening national statistical and inter-institutional capacities for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals through interregional cooperation and knowledge-sharing.
- Improving poverty measurement in the Caribbean: establishing purchasing power parity.
- Strengthening the national capacities of export sectors in Latin America and the Caribbean to meet the challenges of climate change.
- Strengthening the capacity of government officials to adapt to possible disaster scenarios associated with extreme events: analysis for adaptation and disaster risk reduction policies.
- Strengthening government and civil society capacity to incorporate economic and social rights into macroeconomic policy.

In 2010-2011, ECLAC continued to cooperate closely with the World Bank, in particular through the International Comparison Programme (ICP) which is "a worldwide statistical partnership to collect comparative price data and compile detailed expenditure values of countries' gross domestic products (GDP), and to estimate purchasing power parities (PPPs) of the world's economies. Using PPPs instead of market exchange rates to convert currencies makes it possible to compare the output of economies and the welfare of their inhabitants in real terms (that is, controlling for differences in price levels)".

Bilateral sources

Contributions from bilateral sources include funding provided by countries within and outside the region. Contributions from countries of the region added up to US\$ 4.6 million, or 11.5% of the total for the biennium. ECLAC carries out a broad programme of technical cooperation with Argentina, channelled mainly through the ECLAC office in Buenos Aires, and has settled agreements with no fewer than 10 government agencies and four non-governmental organizations in that country. The ECLAC office in Brasilia supports, in particular, the Ministry of Science and Technology, in a capacity-building programme for seven Latin American countries in the field of innovation.

EUROCLIMA: Improving knowledge and institutional capacities in the socioeconomic aspects of climate change



This project, funded by the European Union, focuses on the multisectoral effects of climate change. It aims to provide Governments and decision-makers of the region with improved information on the socioeconomic impacts of climate change (in terms of poverty, vulnerability and wealth distribution), with a view to including this perspective in sustainable development policies. Prominent among the project outcomes are participation in the climate change talks at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP16) in Cancun, and the creation of a climate change network of over 100 stakeholders ranging from political organizations and academics, to members of civil society and entrepreneurs.

In Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Uruguay, the Commission provides cooperation to various governmental agencies and academic institutions, while Costa Rica has requested and funded major technical cooperation projects with ECLAC.

The distinguishing feature of this source of financing is that the recipient countries, as "self-benefiting donor countries", are themselves covering the costs of cooperation by ECLAC. The specific results achieved through contributions made via these mechanisms are reflected in the section of this report devoted to national offices.

Technical cooperation financed by bilateral trust funds from Governments outside the region amounted to US\$ 10.6 million, or 26% of the total during the period. This category of donors, after having shown continued growth for the previous biennium, has stood still in this reporting period, reflecting the impacts on the international crisis on Europe. The largest contributors are the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), which maintains a multi-year multisectoral programme with ECLAC covering regional priorities, and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), which confirmed its regional cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean through ECLAC. The Department for International Development (DFID) of the Government of the United Kingdom is supporting major projects on climate change.

Table 2

Cooperation expenditures financed by bilateral sources

Source of financing	Millions of dollars		Percentages	
	2008-2009	2010-2011	2008-2009	2010-2011
Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean	5.2	4.7	15.1	11.5
Governments of other countries	10	10.6	29.1	26.4
Canada	1.7	0.7	4.9	1.8
Denmark	0.5	0.2	1.4	0.5
France	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
Germany	2.3	2.9	6.7	7.2
Italy	0.6	0.3	1.7	0.8
Japan	0.03	0.05	0.1	0.1
Republic of Korea	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.8
Spain	1.9	3.8	5.5	9.6
Sweden	1.2	0.6	3.5	1.5
United Kingdom	1.3	1.5	3.8	3.6
United States	0.1	0	0.3	0
Non-governmental organizations	1.7	1.8	4.9	4.4
Kellogg Foundation	1.2	1.2	3.5	3.1
Telefónica Foundation	0.1	0	0.3	0
Others	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.3
Total from bilateral sources	16.9	17.1	49.1	42
Total extrabudgetary expenditures	34.5	40.3	100	100

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Contributions from donor countries from outside the region often translate into triangular cooperation, by using experts from Latin America and the Caribbean to carry out cooperation activities with countries of the region.

The private sector (foundations, universities, private partnerships) provided US\$ 1.8 million for such activities, which represented 4.4% of expenditures for the biennium (see table 2). The largest donor is the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, which contributed US\$ 1.2 million, or 3% of total expenditures, primarily through the project Experiences in social innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean, launched in 2004, which seeks to identify, analyse, recognize and disseminate innovative experiences in community health, basic education, youth programmes, income generation, rural and agricultural development, food security and nutrition, social responsibility and volunteerism. The Ford Foundation cooperates with ECLAC on inequality issues faced by indigenous and Afro-descendent communities.

The Commission's long-standing collaboration with universities and research institutes in the region and elsewhere accounted, in the aggregate, for 1% of total spending in 2010-2011.

As foreseen in the last technical cooperation report for the biennium 2008-2009, the international crisis had a negative impact on fundraising from bilateral sources, particularly from traditional European donors. Funds spent from this category stagnated during the 2010-2011 biennium in nominal terms, thus its share decreased from 29% to 26%. This relative decrease of European contributions will probably continue in the biennium 2012-2013 as, on the one hand, Spain and Italy are facing large fiscal cuts and, on the other, the European Commission is planning to reduce its support to middle-income countries.

In addition, contributions from Latin American and Caribbean countries have followed a similar path, decreasing from US\$ 5.2 million to US\$ 4.7 million. Funds from the region represented 15% of total expenditures in the previous biennium, but only 11.5% in 2010-2011.

The extraordinary growth of ECLAC technical cooperation expenditures for the biennium 2010-2011 is explained exclusively by the increase in contributions from its multilateral donors, mainly within "other multilateral organizations" category. The contribution of this category of donors amounted to a historic US\$ 7.9 million, which represents almost double the figure for the 2008-2009 biennium (US\$ 4.3 million).

**@LIS2: Alliance for the Information Society 2
- Inclusive political dialogue and exchange of experiences**



This project, funded by the European Union, aims to support the development of a sustainable, more competitive and inclusive information society in Latin America and the Caribbean, both from the Governments' standpoint and by disseminating best local practices. The project has led the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador and the Central American region to design and implement strategies for digital development. The Regional Dialogue on Broadband enabled Governments of Latin America to pursue a common policy on Internet and data connection. Lastly, ECLAC supported the Pan American Health Organization in the preparation of a regional strategy for e-health.



Component 1 – Energy efficiency in Latin America and the Caribbean

Component 2 – Sustainable development of bio-fuels in transport

Component 3 – Sustainable and efficient consumption of wood fuel in Central America

Component 4 – Fiscal responsibility and countercyclical policies

Component 5 – Decentralization and governance: public service delivery and intergovernmental transfers

Component 6 – Innovation, technological capabilities and quality systems

Component 7 – An innovative approach for sustainable agriculture and rural development: small farming micro-insurance in Central America

Component 8 – Open fund for innovative issues

Results

1. Technical support was provided to various countries of the region in the area of tax reform, direct taxing and tax evasion, and directly led to, or inspired, important tax reforms in the following countries: Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Uruguay.
 2. Following a round of missions, technical cooperation agreements were signed between ECLAC and Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and El Salvador to assist these countries in the planning and evaluation of their public policies.
 3. Various documents and evaluations were produced on the economic and social consequences of climate change in countries of the region, which raised significant interest from the Governments: the national study on the effects of climate change in Chile was co-published with the Government of Chile.
 4. In Peru, ECLAC provided technical assistance for analysing the “Water for All” programme, and was asked to comment on the subsequent draft legislation on this matter.
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Component 1 – Financing social protection: towards universal coverage

Component 2 – Social assistance: poverty reduction and income redistribution through conditional transfer programmes

Component 3 – Social protection strategies for an ageing population

Component 4 – Unpaid labour and the social protection of women

Results

1. Twenty countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, including Costa Rica and Ecuador, had the opportunity to review the main outcomes of the project on social protection and unpaid work during the international expert meeting on Policies on time, time for policies, which was held in the framework of the forty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (28-30 November, 2011). The agreements, which were unanimously adopted, on unpaid work, care policies and time-use surveys (numbers 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 23) testify eloquently to the highly positive reception of this information by the national mechanisms for the advancement of women in the region. The follow-up will be conducted on the basis of these agreements.
 2. In Colombia, technical assistance was provided to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labour, focusing on the formulation of an agenda for the projected reform of the pension and health systems in 2012.
 3. Between November 2010 and March 2012, the database of non-contributory social protection programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean was accessed by 6,609 single visitors, corresponding to a monthly average of 389 visitors, and its data was featured in 14 newspaper articles in eight different countries (Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru).
 4. As a result of the publication of the study *Conditional cash transfer programmes: the recent experience in Latin America and the Caribbean*, the Government of Haiti requested technical assistance for the implementation of a cash transfer programme in the country.
 5. Argentina and Ecuador have requested technical assistance from ECLAC to train 15,000 employees and professionals, respectively, in the social protection and ageing approach, with the aim of modernizing actions targeting older persons.
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- Component 1 – After the bicentenary: institutionalism and economic development in independent Latin America
- Component 2 – Policies in support of SMEs to foster innovation, face the crisis and improve access to financing
- Component 3 – Labour policy and social dialogue
- Component 4 – Environmental innovation of urban services and infrastructures: towards a low-carbon economy
- Component 5 – Strengthening of installed capacity of the producers of gender indicators in Latin America and the Caribbean – Phase III
- Component 6 – Perceptions of the role of the State in the economic and social development
- Component 7 – Evaluation of the achievements in the first Millennium Development Goal as at 2010
- Component 8 – Capacity-building of public servants: towards a school of public management

Results

1. In Uruguay, a collaboration agreement between ECLAC and the Social Security Bank of Uruguay (BPS) provided a framework for joint work on health and pensions issues.
 2. In Colombia, ECLAC provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labour, focusing on the formulation of an agenda for the projected reform of the pension and health systems.
 3. Technical assistance was provided to Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay and Peru to help them to assess the cost-effectiveness of social spending policies.
 4. Capacity-building was provided for over 100 local government representatives in the areas of strategic planning, territorial competitiveness, and results-based public management.
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ECLAC technical cooperation missions in 2010-2011 by type of mission in Latin America and the Caribbean



The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



IMPROVING RESULTS-BASED MANAGEMENT

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PLANNING OF PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Major efforts continued in the 2010-2011 biennium to deepen the culture of results-based management at ECLAC, by strengthening programming and financial planning and accountability.

Under this line of work, the Office of the Executive Secretary continued to organize strategic planning rounds with the substantive divisions, subregional headquarters and national offices, with the involvement in the Deputy Executive Secretary and the Programme Planning and Operations Division. These meetings provided an opportunity to review achievements and progress in 2010-2011, discuss substantive priorities for 2012-2013 and 2014-2015, and review strategies and modalities of work and strategic partnerships with donors and other strategic partners, with a view to achieving greater impacts through the activities. They were also occasions to discuss management matters and take corrective measures when necessary, and to identify areas of coordination and monitoring.

The formulation of expected results, targets and indicators was improved in the course of several meetings in order to make them more relevant to the programmes of work of the various divisions and to provide tools to enable the divisions to manage their activities more effectively.

These planning rounds afforded the Programme Planning and Operations Division the opportunity to prepare two ECLAC strategic planning documents for the future:

(i) Draft Strategic framework and substantive priorities of ECLAC for the biennium 2014-2015, which will be submitted to Headquarters and to the General Assembly in 2012, and (ii) Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for the 2012-2013 biennium, which will be reviewed by the member State of ECLAC at the thirty-fourth session in 2012. These two documents set out the new proposed strategic priorities organized by subprogramme, as well as the related strategy and tentative list of outputs.

In formulating strategic priorities for 2012-2013 and 2014-2015, ECLAC has sought to ensure that the gender perspective is mainstreamed across its subprogrammes, be it through strategy, expected outcomes or specific products.

STRONGER CAPACITY FOR MONITORING PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

During the biennium, the Programme Planning and Operations Division has made significant efforts to strengthen ongoing monitoring of performance indicators and results achieved across all the Commission's divisions and projects, through the Integrated Monitoring and Document Information System (IMDIS) and the preparation of results-oriented reports.

Twice-yearly reviews of performance indicators and results through IMDIS have become standard practice, thereby institutionalizing the results-based approach. The Commission has systematized the use of monitoring tools, such as evaluation surveys and the establishment of focal points, and the Programme Planning and

Operations Division has advised the substantive divisions on the improvement of oversight work. Better coordination has been achieved in the execution of consolidated programmes of work and in monitoring their implementation (with better coordination between regular resources and extrabudgetary financing).

In order to make follow-up processes more consistent and standardize the presentation of results, precise instructions have been issued for each biannual review, with formats that enable focal points to verify that requirements and monitoring lines established by United Nations Headquarters and by ECLAC have been met.

Two major training events were organized during the biennium to strengthen institutional capacities in results-based management. In 2011, a course was held on results-based management and project management, using an innovative methodology in which the participants were given both relevant theoretical elements and knowledge of how to apply them specifically in the United Nations and ECLAC. The course was organized jointly by staff of the Programme Planning and Operations Division and a consultant specialized in results-based management. The course, which was given at ECLAC headquarters Santiago and at the two subregional headquarters, was very well rated by the participants, of whom 90% considered it excellent or good.

In 2011, a course organized by the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) on measurement for efficient results-based management was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago. Twenty people participated in the course, including ECLAC staff members and representatives of other United Nations agencies in the region.

STRENGTHENING EVALUATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

ECLAC has continued to support the strategic use of evaluations as a tool for improving processes and ensuring effective implementation of activities, but also as a mechanism that favours accountability and the organization's transparency vis-à-vis its beneficiaries and donors.

During the biennium, at least four discretionary assessments were conducted with the support of consultants and expert assessors. These exercises used panels and assessment teams, thereby affording them a high degree of credibility and validity. Evaluations were performed on sample of ECLAC work, including an area that cuts across the Commission's entire programme of work and Development Account projects. A broad range of evaluation tools and methodologies were used for this purpose.

The following evaluations were conducted in the biennium:

- The cooperation programme with SIDA: "Enhancing economic and social conditions and opportunities of vulnerable groups in Latin America".
- The Development Account project Implications of macroeconomic policy, external shocks and social protection systems for poverty, inequality, and social vulnerability in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- The Development Account project: Strengthening the capacity of the Latin American and Caribbean countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and ECLAC work on themes related to the Millennium Development Goals.
- The role of ECLAC in the Caribbean, Phase II. This in-depth evaluation identified the contributions, relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the work of ECLAC with regard to development in the Caribbean subregion, from the perspective of the work carried out from the Commission's headquarters, subregional headquarters in Mexico and national offices. This work represents the continuation of the evaluation conducted in 2009, which looked at the role of ECLAC in the Caribbean from the perspective of the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. This second phase of the evaluation was presented to the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee at its twenty-third session in 2012, with a view to establishing specific actions to monitor the implementation of the recommendations arising from the report.



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